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GEORGE C. MARSHALL

**SPACE
FLIGHT
CENTER**

DATA BOOK FOR 12.5-INCH DIAMETER
SRB THERMAL MODEL WATER FLOTATION
TEST - 1.29 PSIA, SERIES P022

NASA/MSFC

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SUMMARY

This report presents data acquired from tests conducted to determine how thermal conditions affect SRB (Space Shuttle Solid Rocket Booster) flotation at a scaled pressure of 1.29 psia. Included are acceleration, pressure, and temperature data recorded from initial water impact to final flotation position using a 12.5-inch diameter thermal model of the SRB. Nineteen valid tests were conducted during September 20-27, 1973. These thermal tests indicated the following basic differences relative to the ambient temperature and pressure model tests.

1. More water was taken on board during penetration.
2. Model flotation/sinking was temperature sensitive.

SECTION I. INTRODUCTION

This report presents processed acceleration, pressure, strain, and photographic data recorded during water impact tests using a 12.5-inch thermal model of the Space Shuttle Solid Rocket Booster (SRB); see Figure 1. These tests were conducted from September 20-27, 1973. A description of the model, test procedure, instrumentation, and data acquisition systems is included.

These tests investigated thermal effects on a scale model SRB during impact, penetration, slapdown and final flotation at 1.29 psia by varying the model temperature at water entry. Entry dynamic conditions were varied by using different combinations of vertical velocities and water impact angles. Results from these tests will be used to develop analytical models for the full scale SRB and to indicate potential problem areas.

Nineteen valid drop tests were conducted.

SECTION II. MODEL DESCRIPTION

The test specimen was a model of the 142-inch diameter Space Shuttle SRB with a flared skirt and a full length nozzle. The model was a rigid body constructed of aluminum alloy 2219-T87 and contained three sections:

1. Cylindrical Section (four segments)
2. Motor Nozzle Section
3. Flared Skirt Section

Two model configurations were used:

1. Full Length Nozzle
2. Short Nozzle

Figure 2 shows the dimensions for each model configuration. The short nozzle was used to simulate the ejection of the nozzle extension. The dimensions and mass characteristics of the model were:

- Length:
 - Full Length Nozzle: 136.9 inches
 - Short Nozzle: 132.3 inches
- Body Diameter: 12.5 inches
- Skirt Diameter: 16.5 inches
- Weight:
 - Full Length Nozzle: 109.0 lbs
 - Short Nozzle: 105.8 lbs
- Pitch Mass Moment of Inertia:
 - Full Length Nozzle: 40.8 slug-ft²
 - Short Nozzle: 40.6
- C.G. Location (aft of the nose plate)
 - Full Length Nozzle: 73.06 inches
 - Short Nozzle: 70.94 inches

Geometric patterns were placed on the model to aid in photographic data reduction. Twenty-four 120-watt heater strips (2.0-inch width) were placed around the cylindrical sections. Four 45-watt heaters were on the long nozzle and two on the short nozzle. The aft bulkhead had four 45-watt heaters installed. The power source was 208 volts, 3-phase (Y), 100 amps, 60 Hz. No heater strips were placed on the flared skirt. External insulation (Dow Corning Silicon Paint 93-027) was sprayed on the external surface of the model to a depth of .02 inch.

SECTION III. TEST PROCEDURE

Testing of the 12.5-inch diameter thermal model was conducted at the Naval Ordnance Laboratory (NOL) hydroballistics facility in White Oaks, Maryland. The model was suspended inside the NOL facility with a quick release device at the specific initial angle. The model height above the water surface was varied to yield the specified impact velocity. After the test tank was pumped down to 1.29 psia, power was applied to the heater strips. When the model reached the test temperature, the release mechanism was activated. The model was allowed to fall freely. The model impacted tail first with nominal vertical impact velocities of 23 to 30 ft/sec. The nominal off-vertical pitch angles were 0, 20, and 31 degrees. Average wall temperatures ranged from ambient to 153°F.

The procedure for drying out the inside of the model after each test was as follows:

1. Lift model from the water with the vent valve open.
2. Rotate model to horizontal position and attach a purge hose to vent valve.
3. Flow dry missile-grade air through model ($13.4 \text{ ft}^3/\text{min}$) while applying power to heater strips.
4. After model reaches 212°F, continue purge for 10 minutes.

The test run number, nominal vertical velocity, initial impact angles and temperatures are shown in Appendix A. Figure 3 shows the coordinate system and defines the parameters used in the test program.

SECTION IV. DATA ACQUISITION AND INSTRUMENTATION

The data acquisition system consisted of acceleration, pressure, and strain gage transducers with associated signal conditioning electronics, multiplexing equipment, and analog tape recording system. An oscilloscope recorder was used to display online measurements during each test.

Instrumentation consisted of six accelerometers, two ullage pressure transducers, two ullage and six wall mounted thermocouples, and one vacuum chamber pressure transducer.

Measurement identification numbers, transducer types, and other pertinent instrumentation details are given in Table I. Figures 4 and 5 show the instrumentation locations.

Two camera systems were used for photographic coverage. Two high speed (250 frames/second) cameras 90 degrees apart (in a horizontal plane) filmed impact and splashdown. The lenses were centered at the water level for above and below water coverage. A low speed (40 frames/second) camera operated from impact until final flotation position.

All data acquisition systems were calibrated in accordance with approved laboratory practices and calibrations were maintained as required.

SECTION V. DATA PROCESSING AND EVALUATION

Onsite data evaluation was performed after each drop. All oscillograms were reviewed to determine the validity of each measurement and time slices were selected for time history plots. Analog data tapes from each test were sent to MSFC Computation Laboratory for reduction. A digitized time history plot for each valid data channel was made with a sufficient time slice to include model release, water impact, slapdown, and rebound conditions. An additional time history plot was made for the pressure and temperature channels which extended the previous time history plots to a total time of 15 to 30 seconds.

SECTION VI. DATA PRESENTATION

Model impact parameters obtained from photographic data reduction are presented in Appendix A. Parameters included are:

- Vertical impact angle (deg)
- Maximum penetration depth (ft)
- Vertical angle at maximum penetration (deg)

The impact velocities were calculated from accelerometer data which indicates release time and impact time.

Acceleration, pressure, and temperature data time history plots are presented in Appendix B. Acceleration (g), pressure (psig), and temperature ($^{\circ}$ F) are presented as a function of time.

TABLE I. INSTRUMENTATION PROGRAM

MEASUREMENT NUMBER	MEASUREMENT TYPE	FREQUENCY RESPONSE (Hz)	FULL SCALE RANGE	SENSITIVE AXIS
EP001	Accelerometer	2-400	$\pm 25G$	Pitch
EY002	"	"	"	Yaw
EA003	"	"	"	Axial
EP004	"	"	"	Pitch
EY005	"	"	"	Yaw
EA006	"	"	"	Axial
D0001	Pressure	"	± 5.00 psig	Internal
D0002	"	"	"	"
D0003	"	"	± 5.00 psig	Chamber
C0001	Thermocouple	"	1500F	External Wall
C0002	"	"	"	Internal Wall
C0003	"	"	"	Ullage
C0004	"	"	"	Internal Wall
C0005	"	"	"	Ullage
C0006	"	"	"	Internal Wall
C0007	"	"	"	" "
C0008	"	"	"	" "

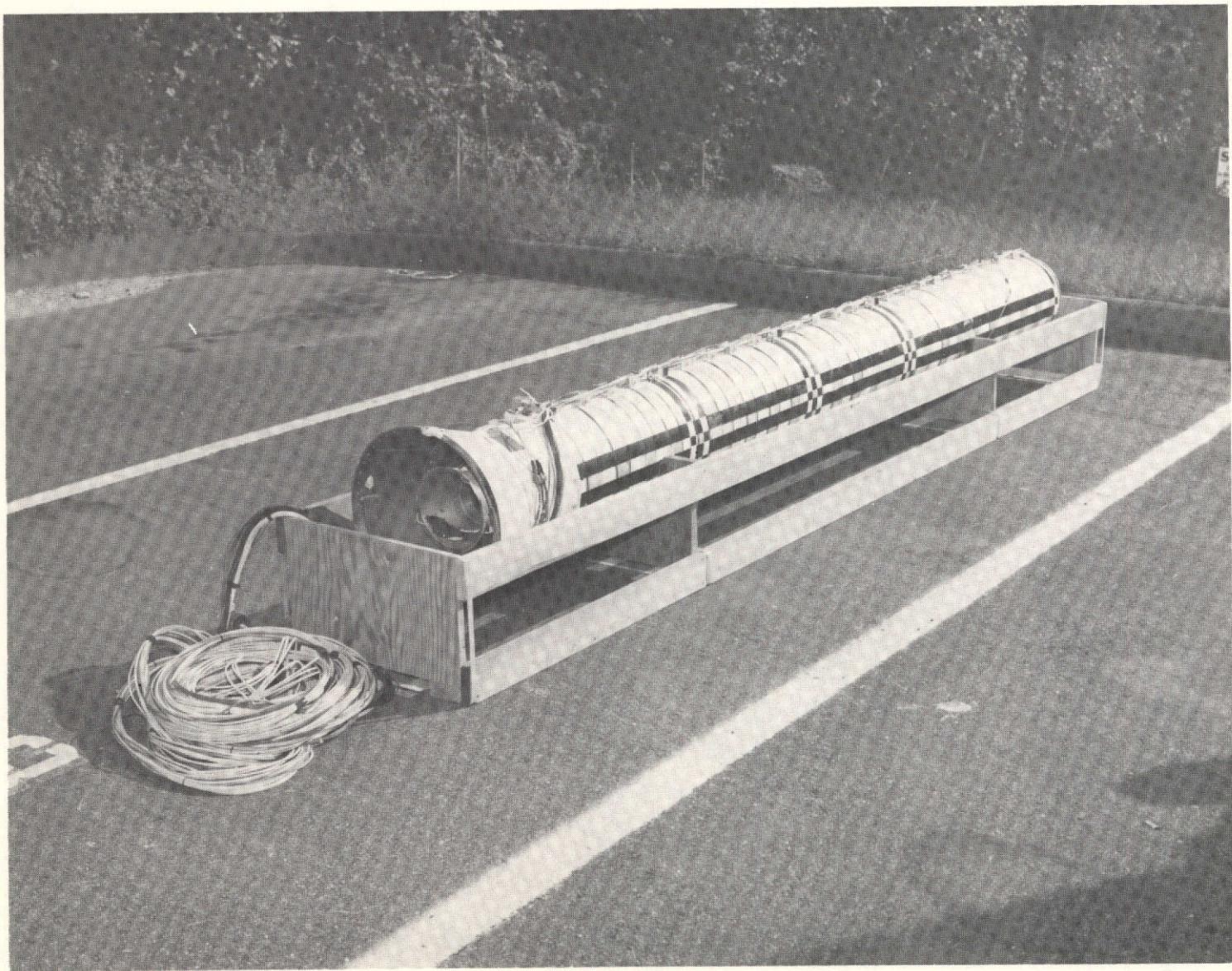
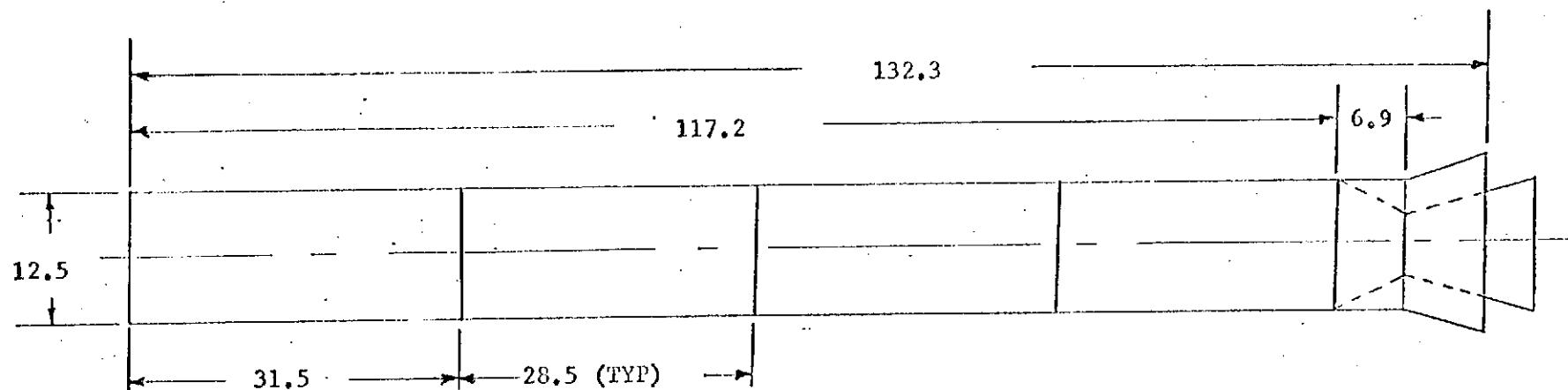
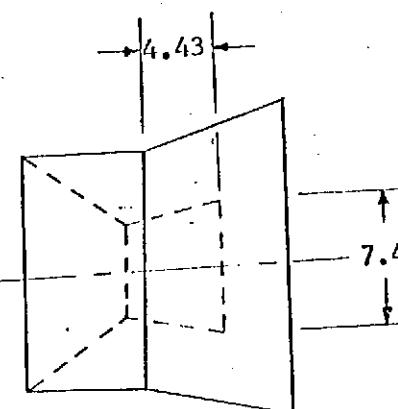


FIGURE 1. 12.5-INCH SRB THERMAL MODEL

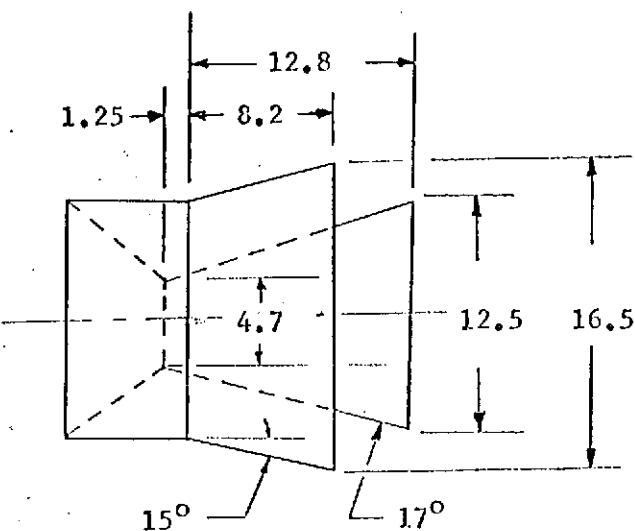
NOTE: DIMENSIONS IN INCHES



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Short Nozzle



LONG NOZZLE

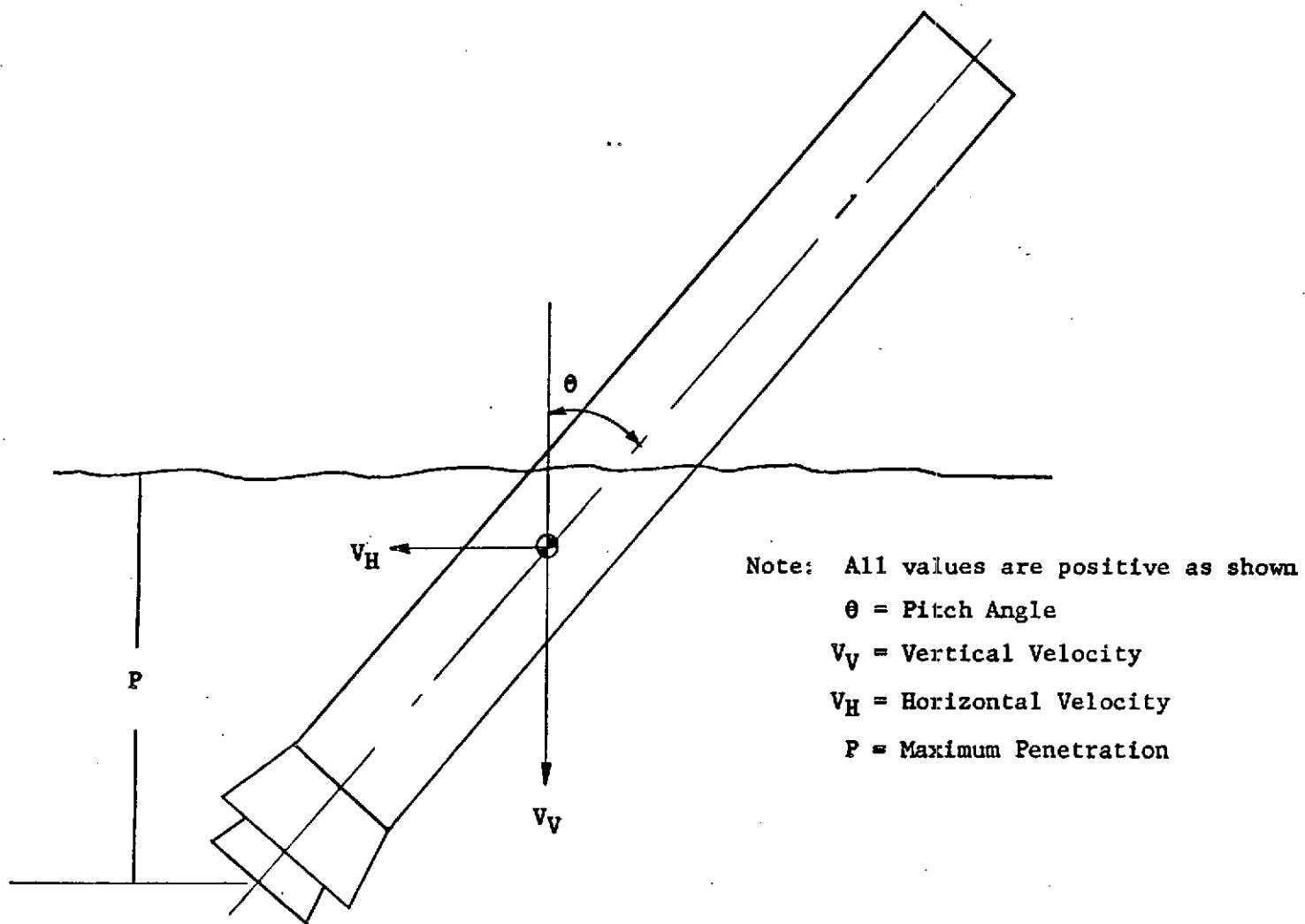


FIGURE 3. MODEL COORDINATE SYSTEM AND PARAMETER DEFINITION

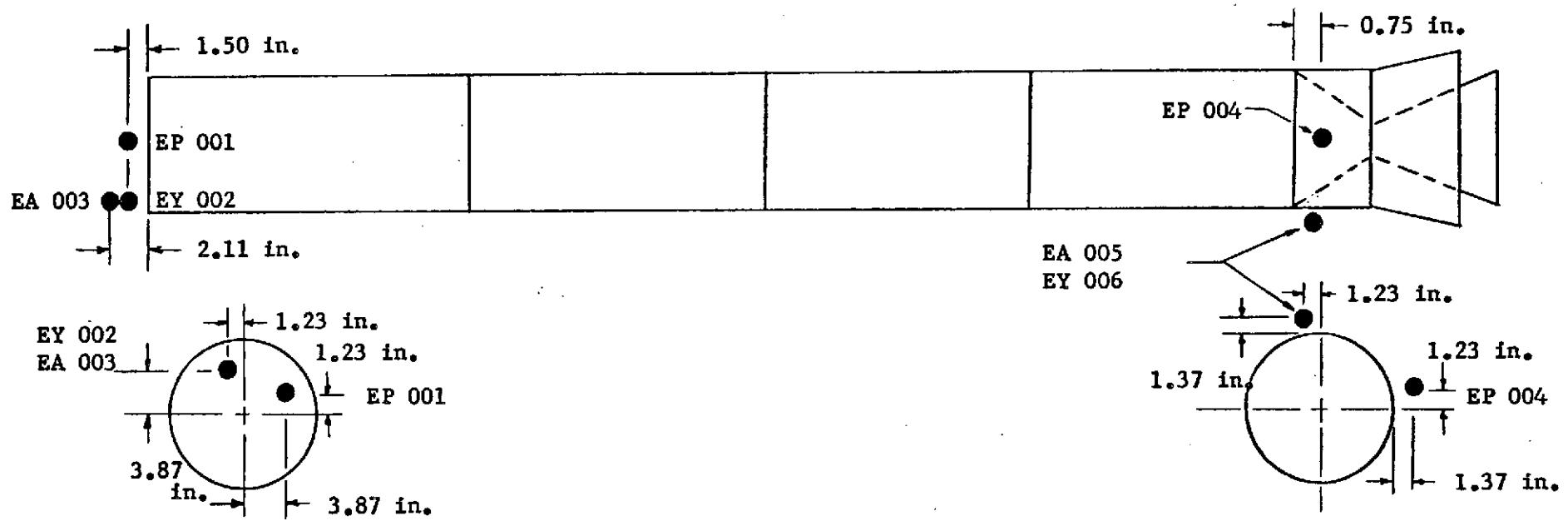


FIGURE 4. 12.5-INCH SRB THERMAL MODEL ACCELEROMETER LOCATIONS

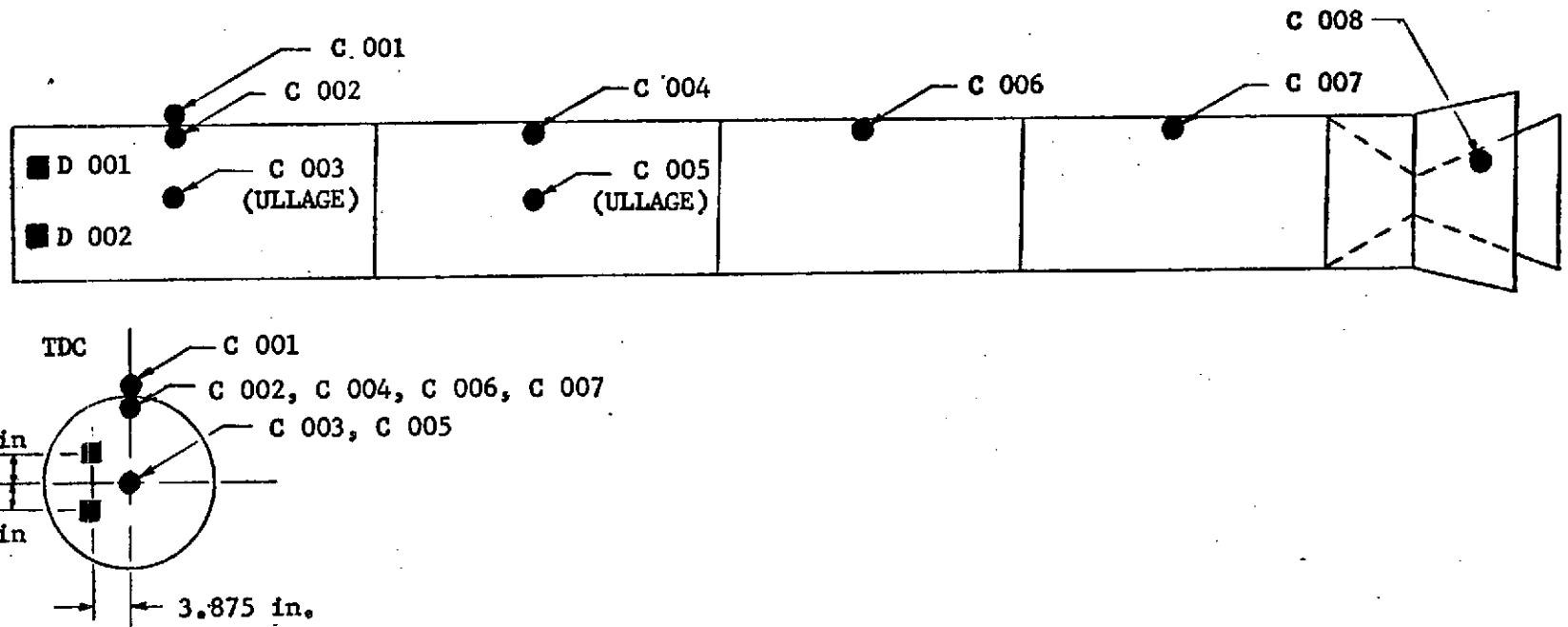


FIGURE 5. 12.5-INCH THERMAL SRB MODEL PRESSURE AND TEMPERATURE LOCATIONS

APPENDIX A

IMPACT AND PENETRATION DATA

12.5-INCH THERMAL MODEL SRB

TABLE I. IMPACT PARAMETERS

TEST NO.	IMPACT VELOCITY ft/sec	HORIZONTAL VELOCITY ft/sec	IMPACT ANGLE degrees	ANGLE AT MAXIMUM PENETRATION degrees	MAXIMUM PENETRATION		AVERAGE WALL ULLAGE TEMPERATURE °F	NOZZLE CONFIG- URATION
					ft	/ sec		
31	23.64	0	0.20	2.70	4.04	/ 0.748	130.5 / 128.5	SHORT NOZZLE
32	23.64	0	-0.199	3.70	4.48	/ 0.748	124.75 / 128.0	
33	23.74	0	32.10	60.10	2.14	/ 0.30	130.5 / 134.5	
34	23.64	0	0.10	4.40	5.4	/ 0.855	AMBIENT	
35	23.74	0	32.40	60.00	2.24	/ 0.30	AMBIENT	
36	23.87	0	21.20	52.20	2.85	/ 0.396	130.0 / 132.5	
37	23.74	0	0.40	7.10	4.93	/ 1.00	118.5 / 119.5	
38	23.84	0	32.60	65.10	2.28	/ 0.332	124.2 / 128.0	
39	23.74	0.21	0.20	3.70	3.79	/ 0.632	158.3 / 164.5	
40	24.00	0	32.90	59.50	2.21	/ 0.296	159.5 / 166.0	
43	29.53	0	32.5	58.90	2.32	/ .244	118.5 / 123.5	
44	29.76	0.91	32.20	62.70	2.4	/ 0.280	130.7 / 137.5	
45	23.81	0	0	1.80	4.42	/ 0.756	120.2 / 129.0	
46	29.63	0	0.40	4.0	4.97	/ 0.756	120.5 / 126.5	
47	23.16	0	0	1.20	6.33	/ 0.868	118.5 / 121.0	LONG NOZZLE
48	24.06	0.71	31.80	68.60	2.58	/ 0.396	118.2 / 122.0	
49	29.66	0	0.299	1.40	6.72	/ 0.87	119.5 / 128.0	
50	30.30	0	31.20	61.20	2.67	/ 0.288	118.7 / 117.0	
51	29.60	0	0.70	7.30	6.31	/ 0.772	127.5 / 131.0	

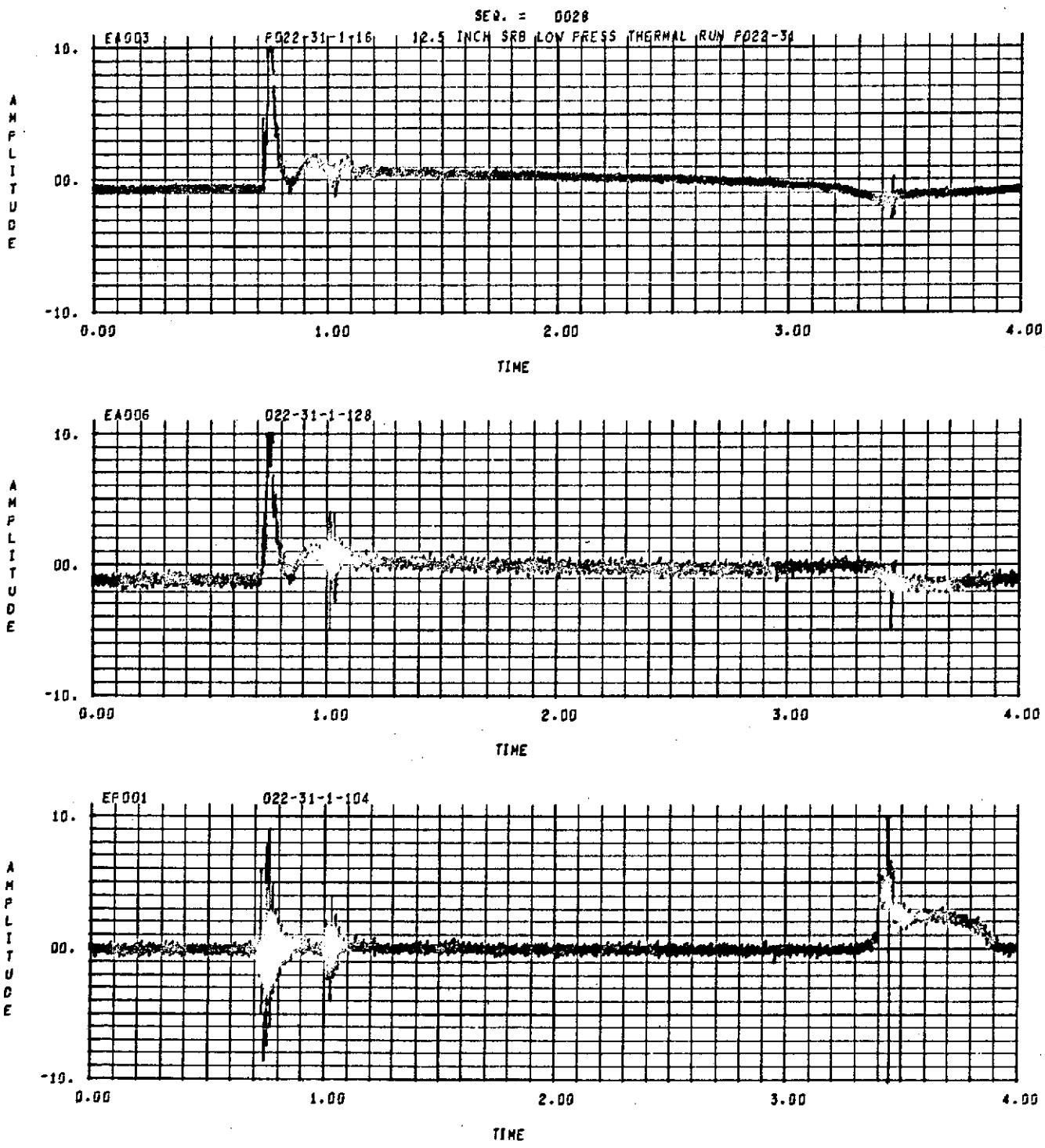
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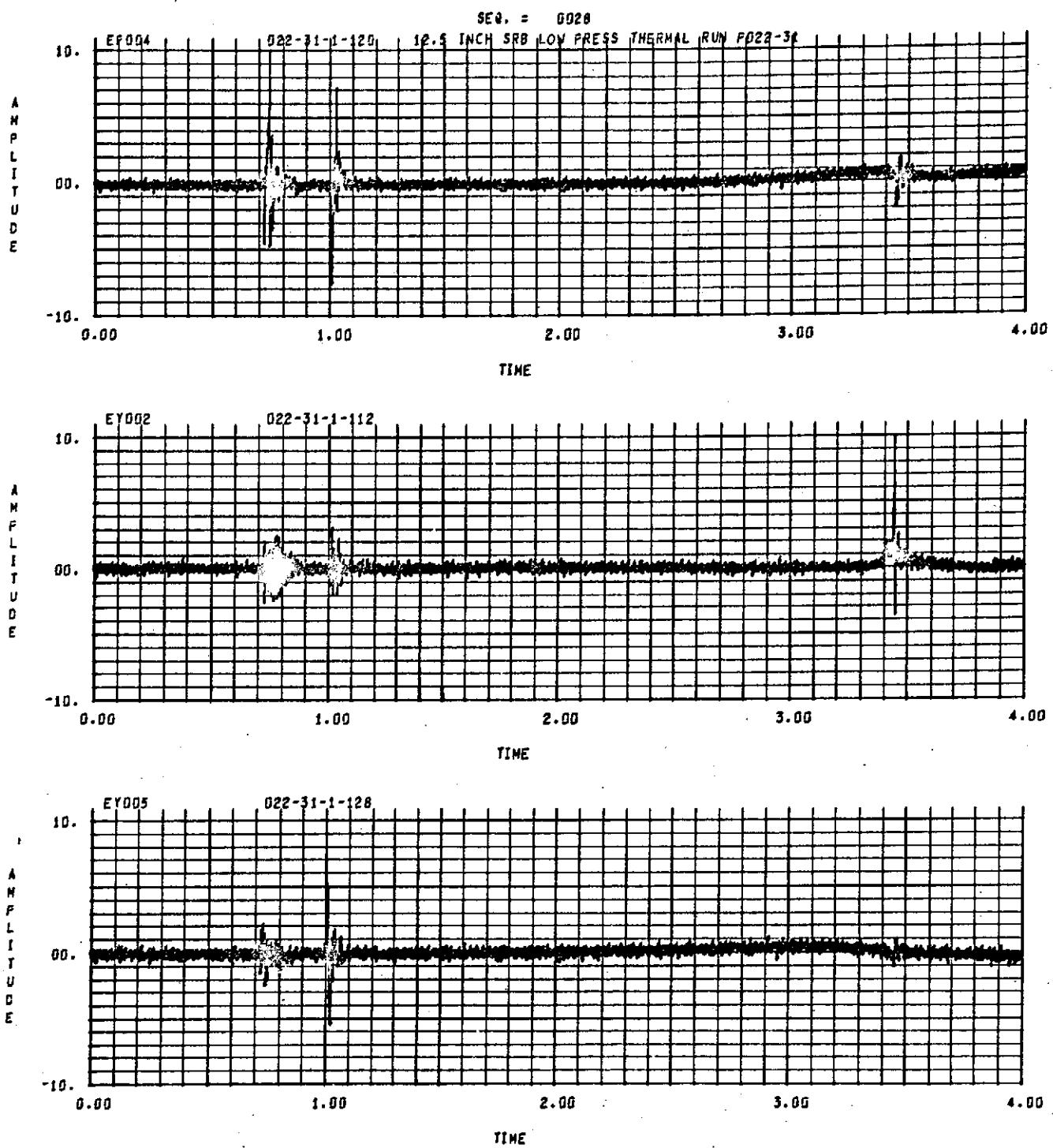
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TEMPERATURE DATA**

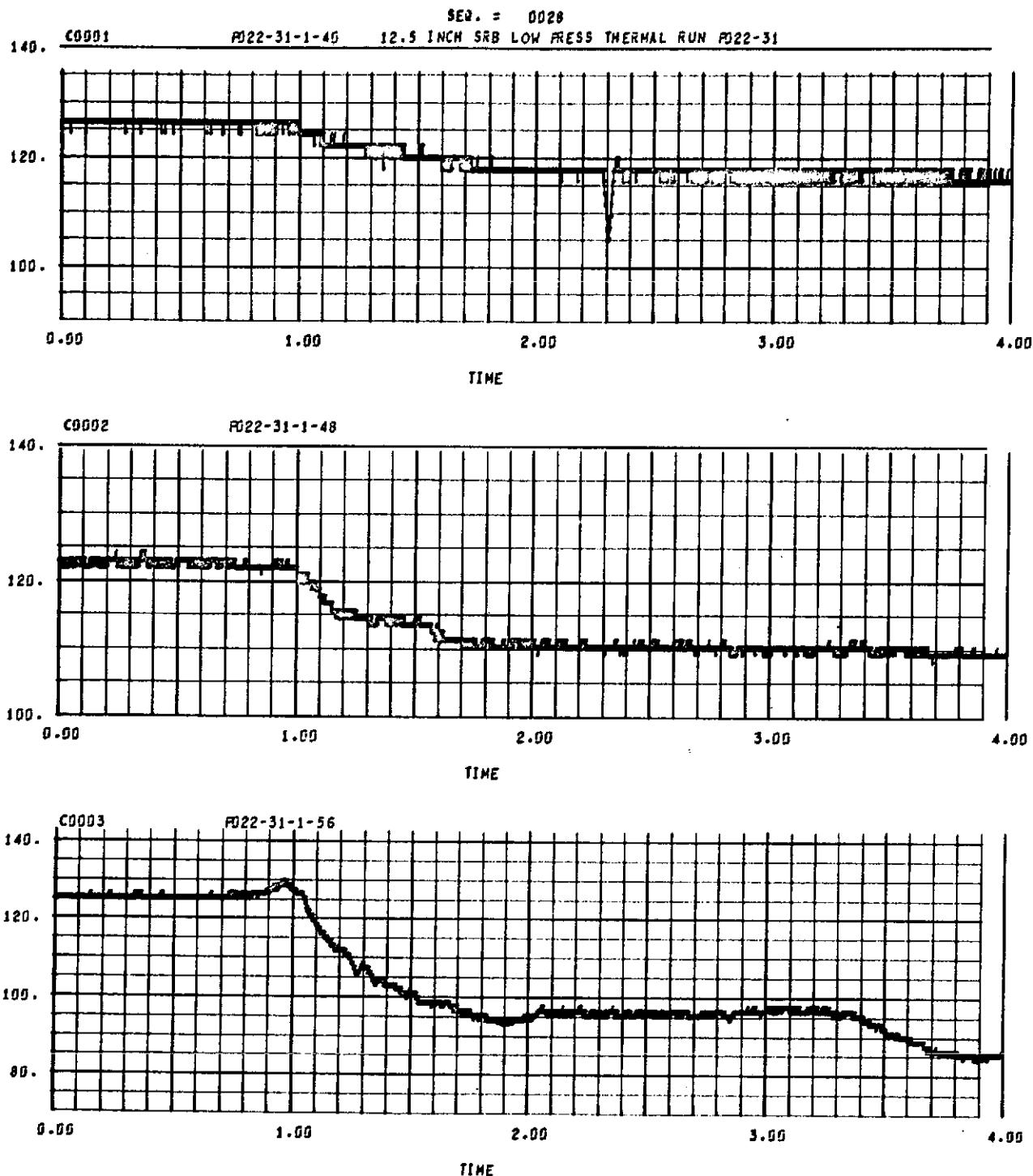
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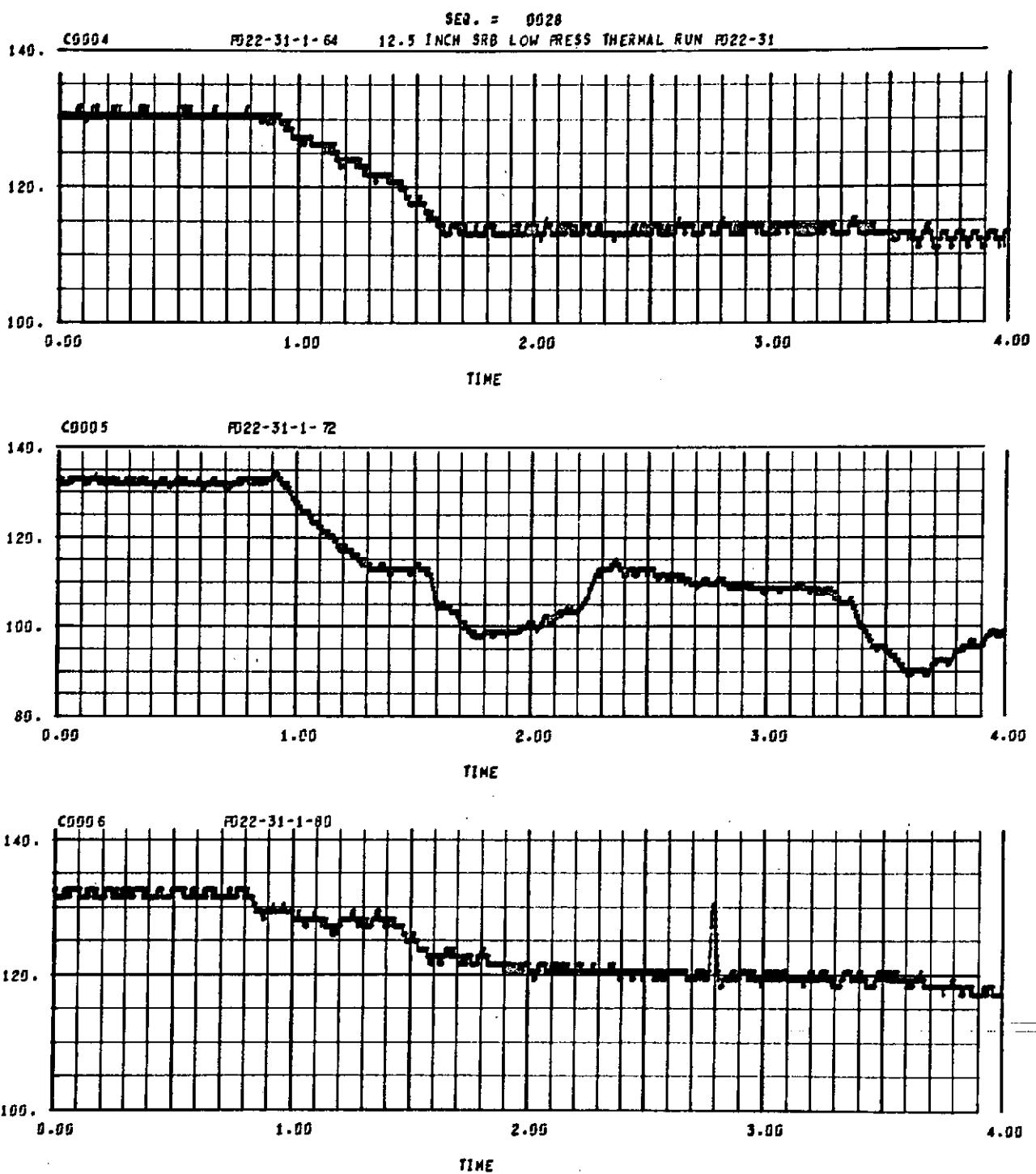
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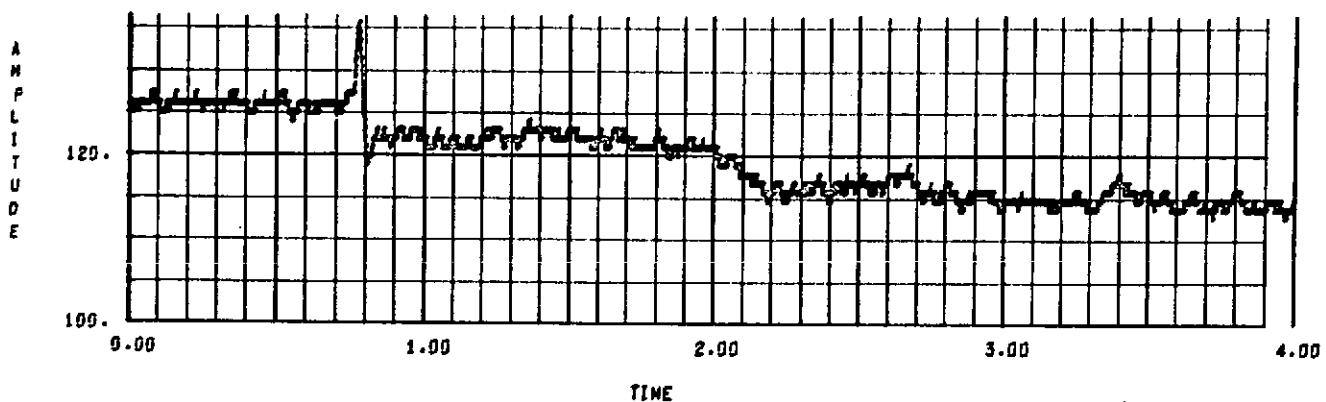






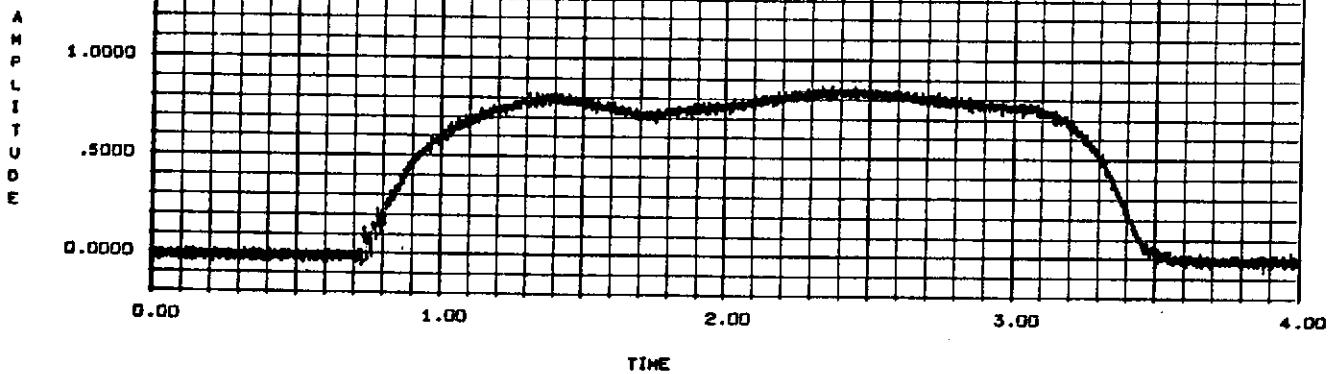
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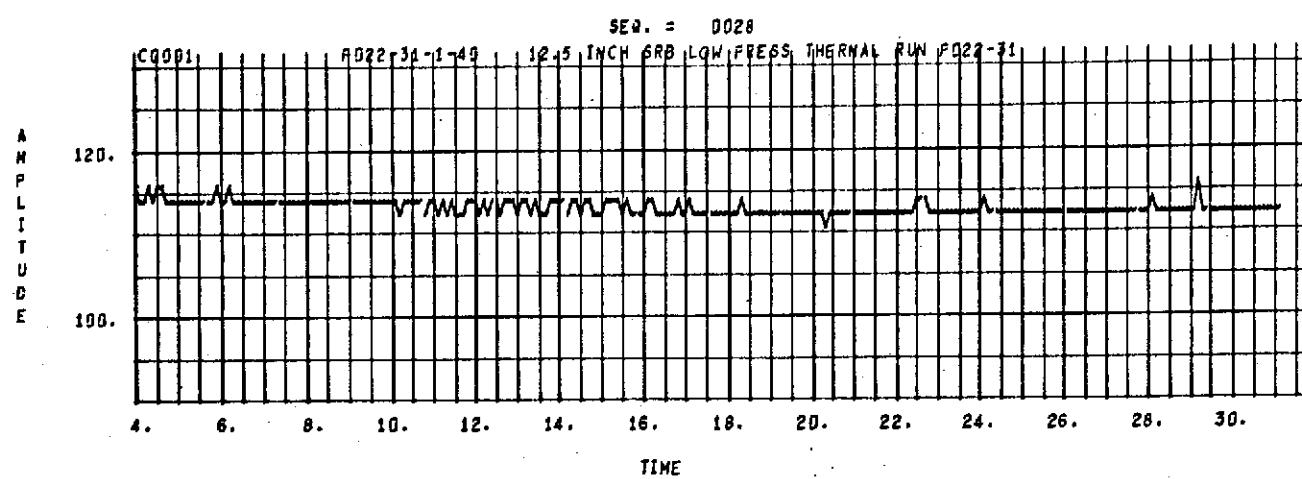
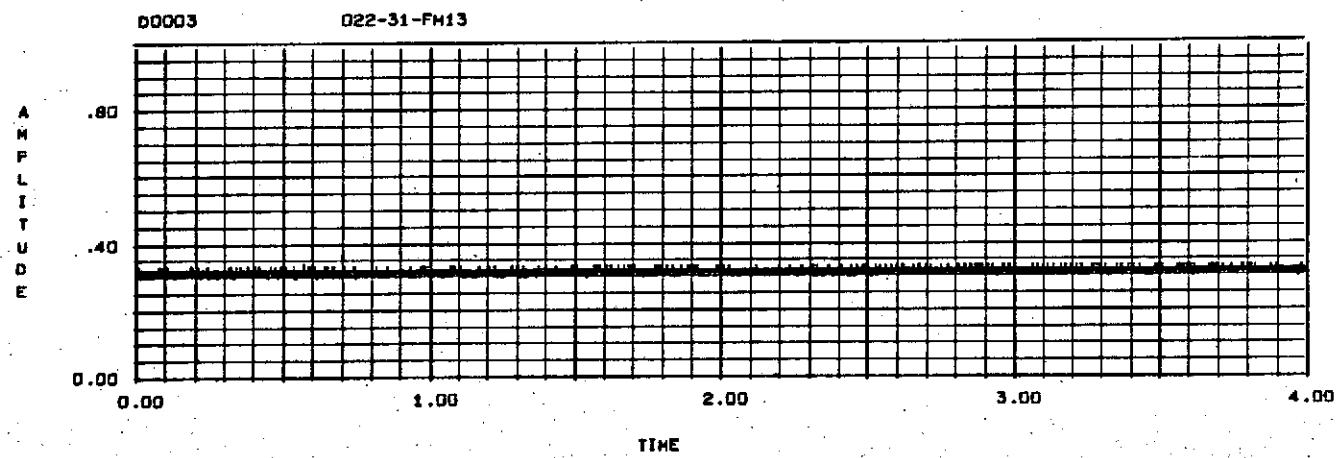
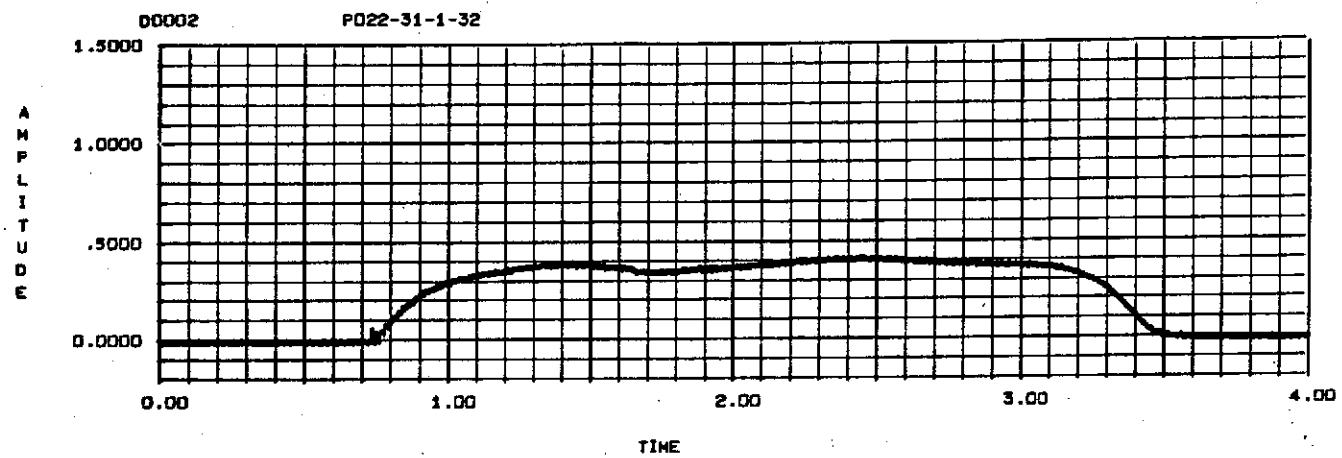
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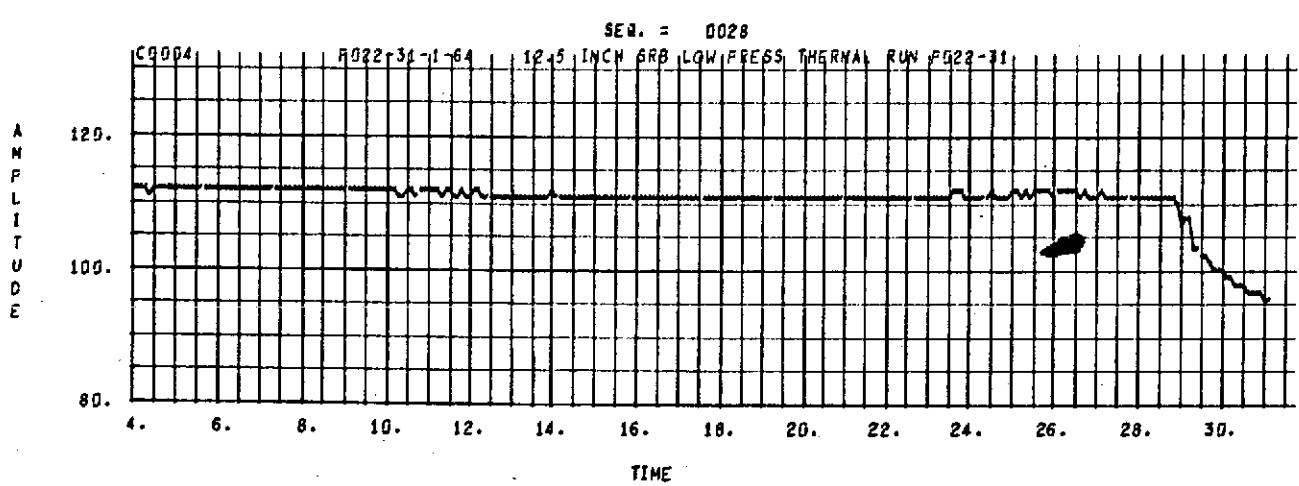
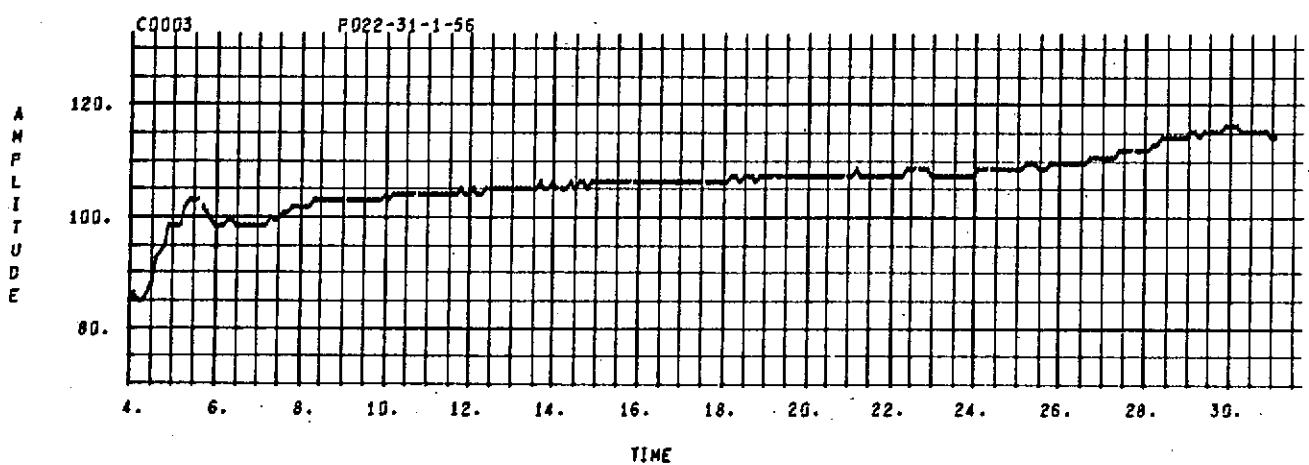
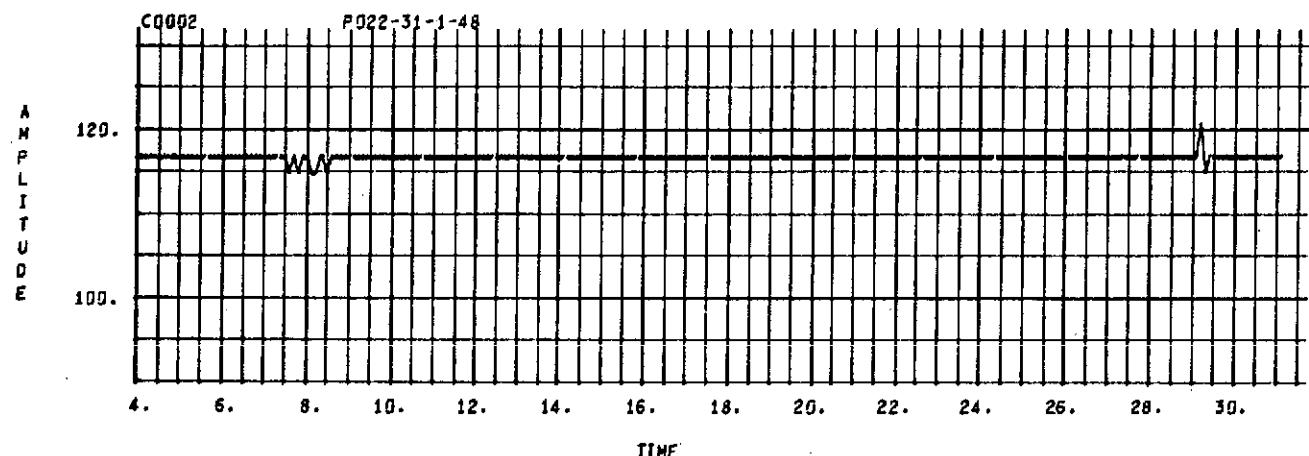


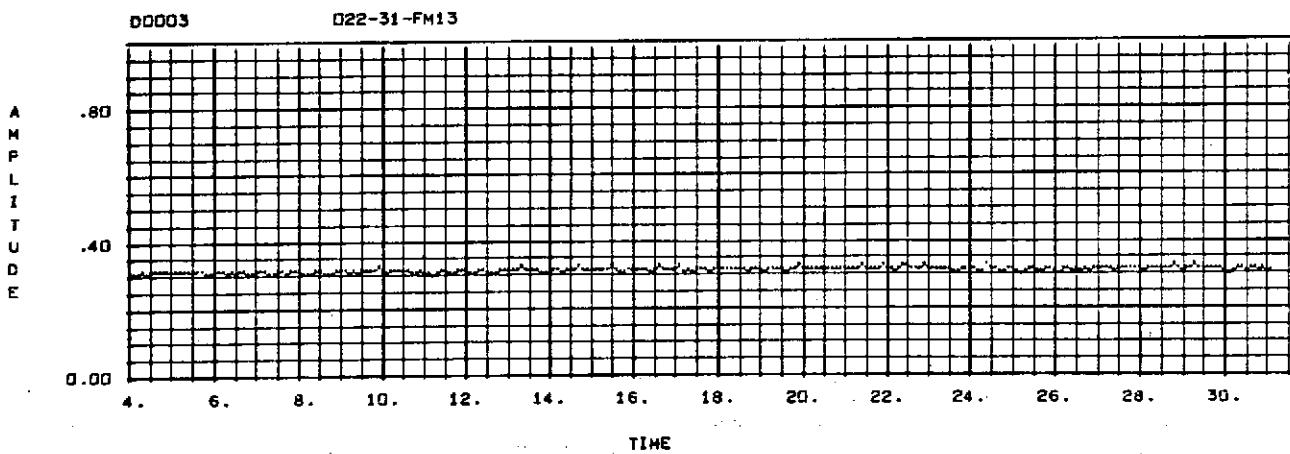
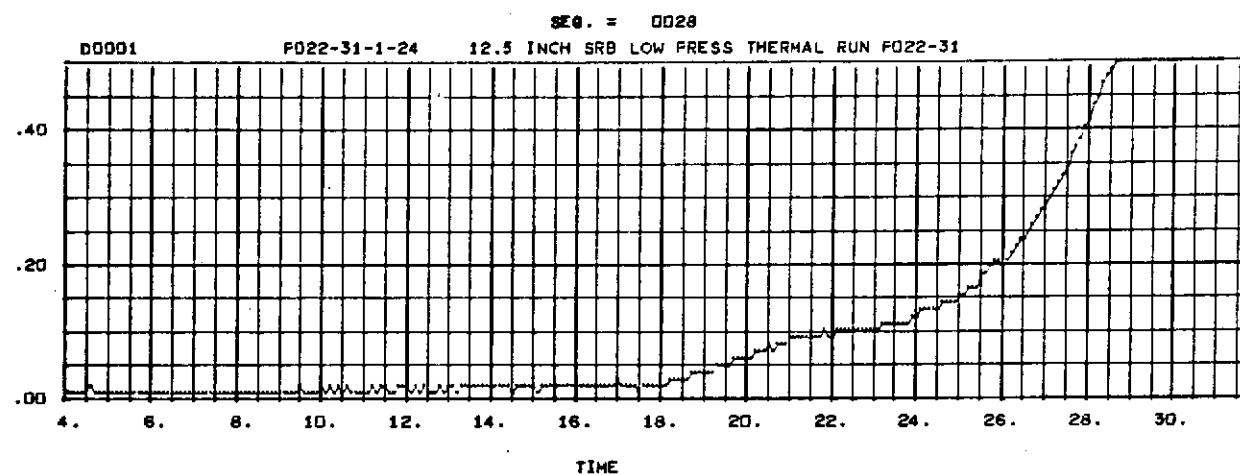
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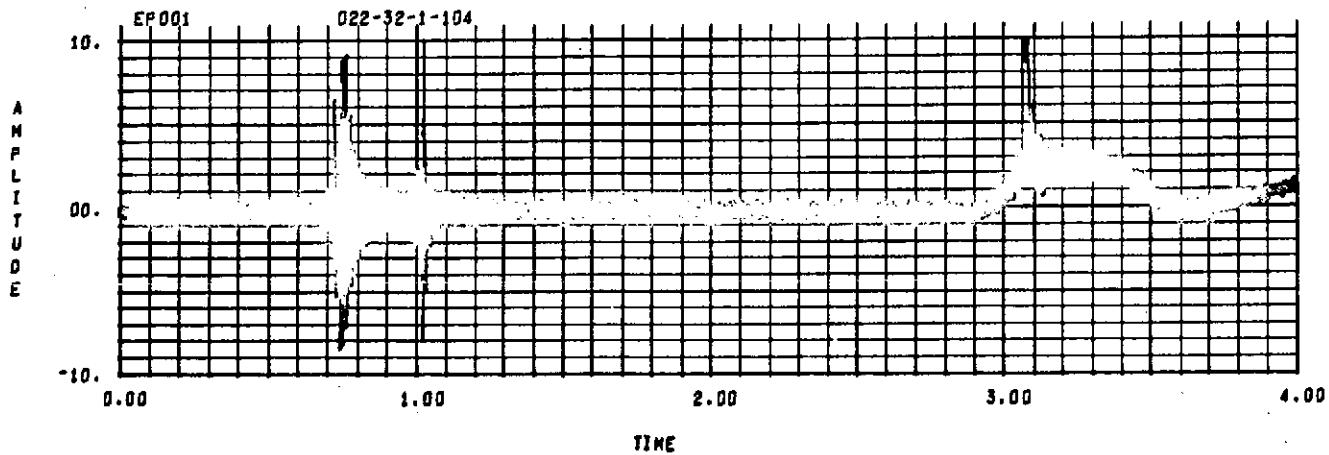
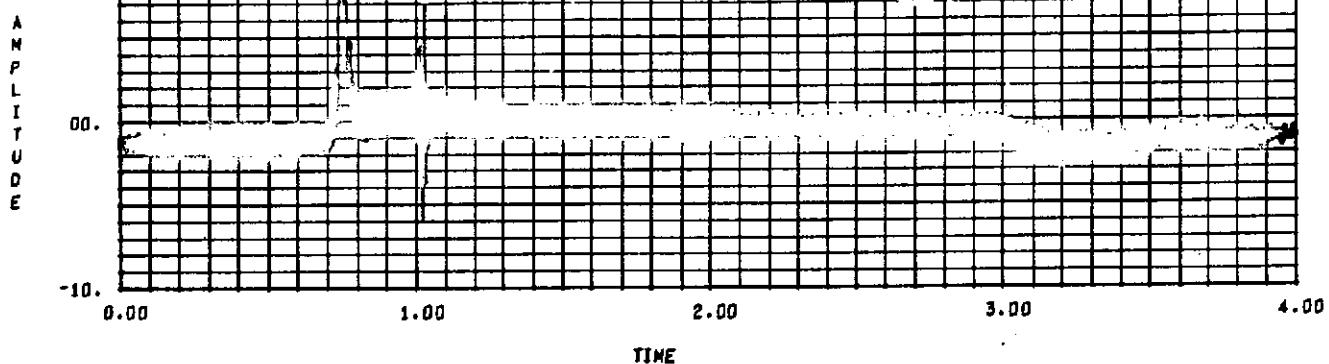
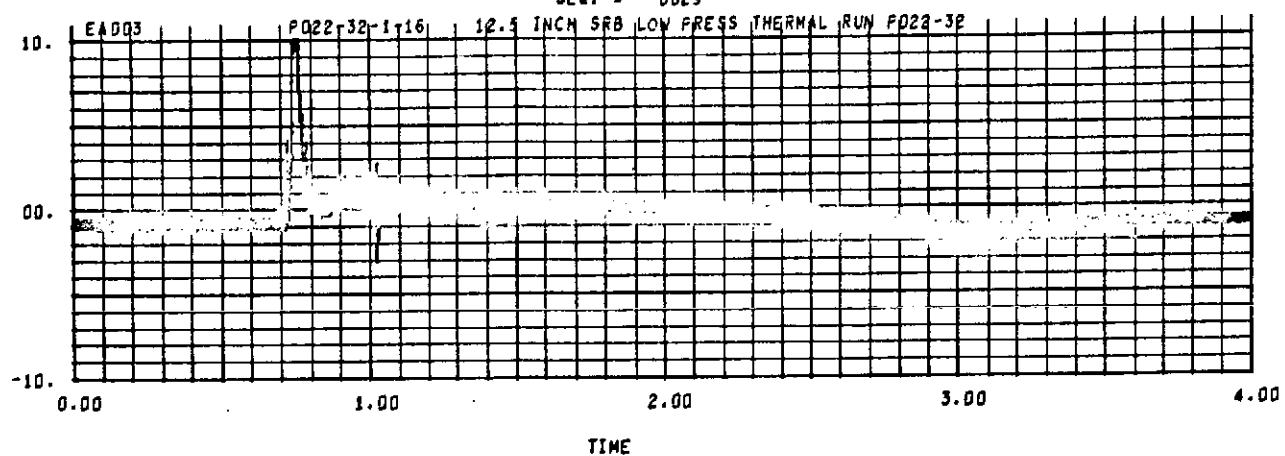


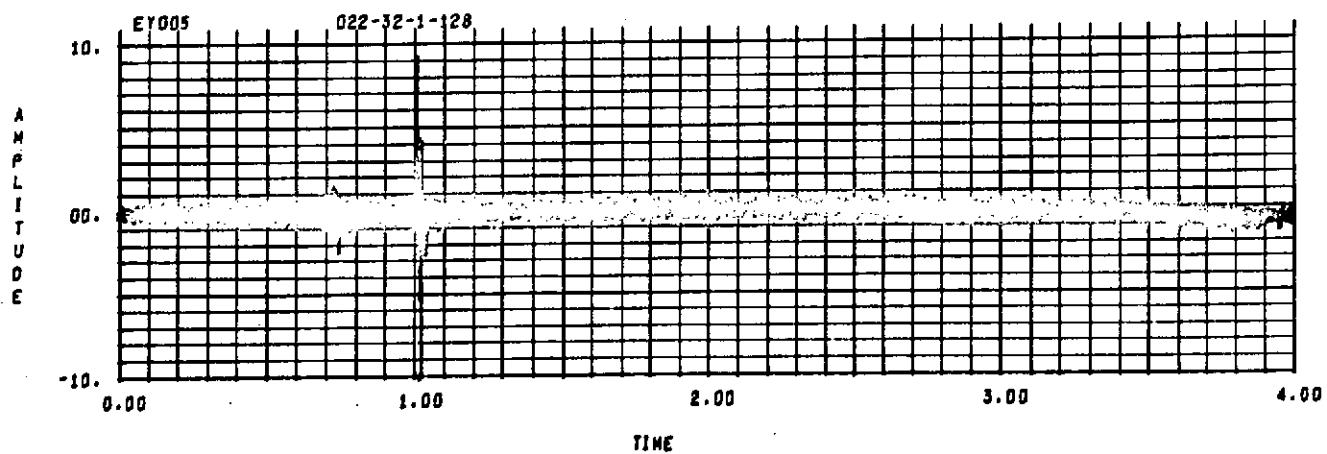
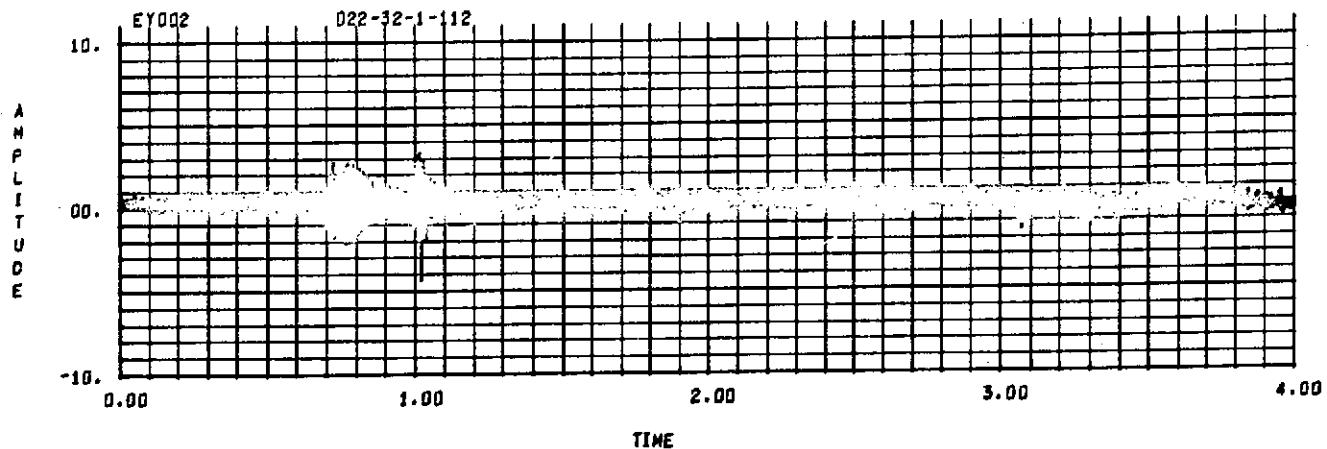
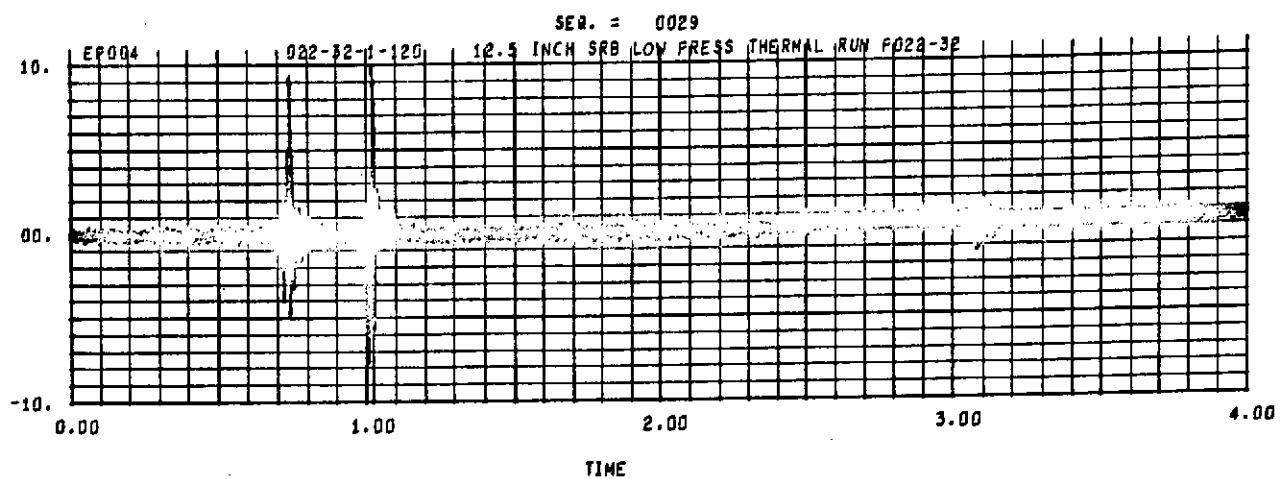


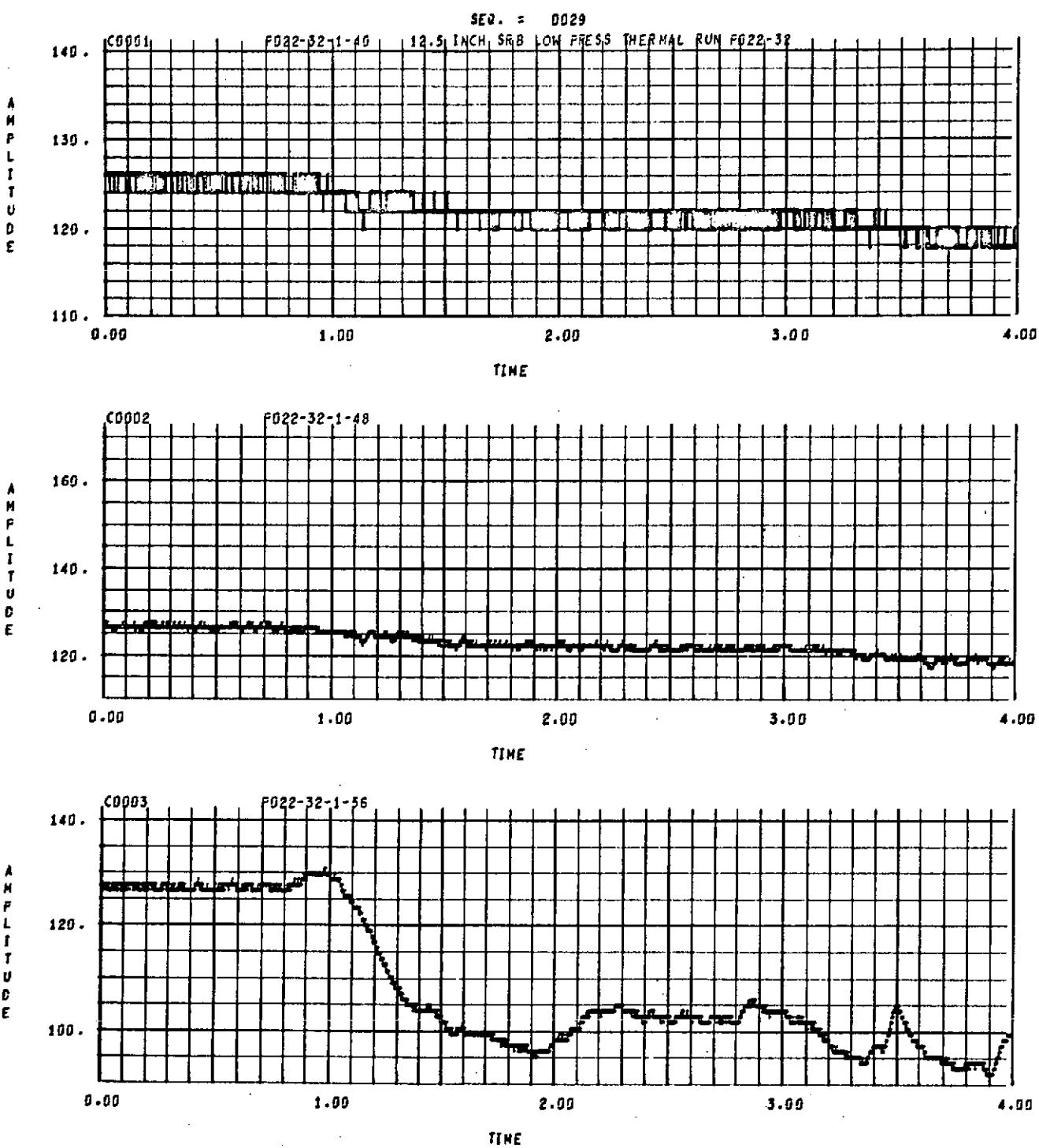


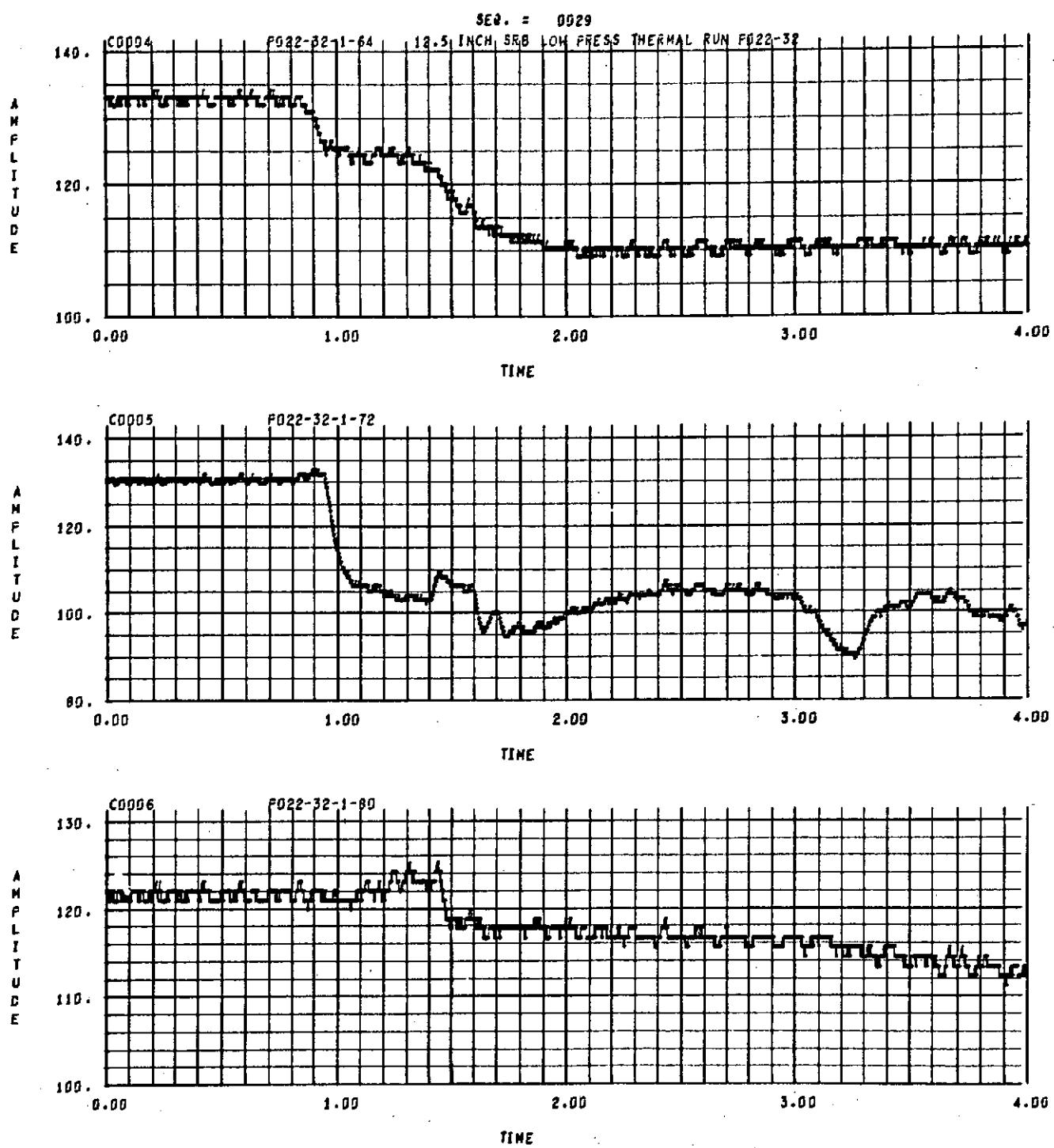


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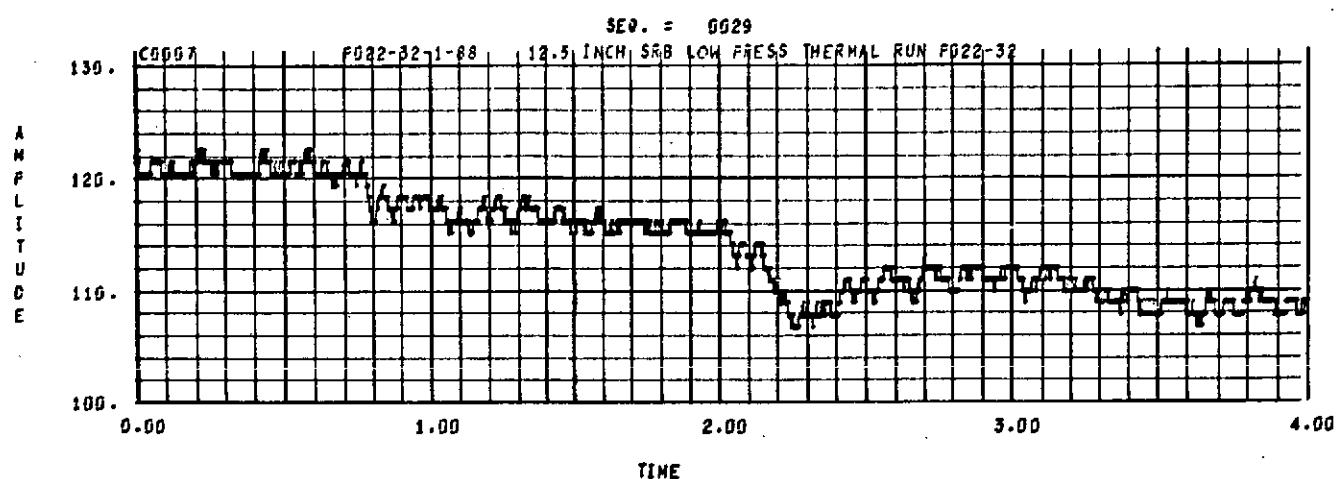




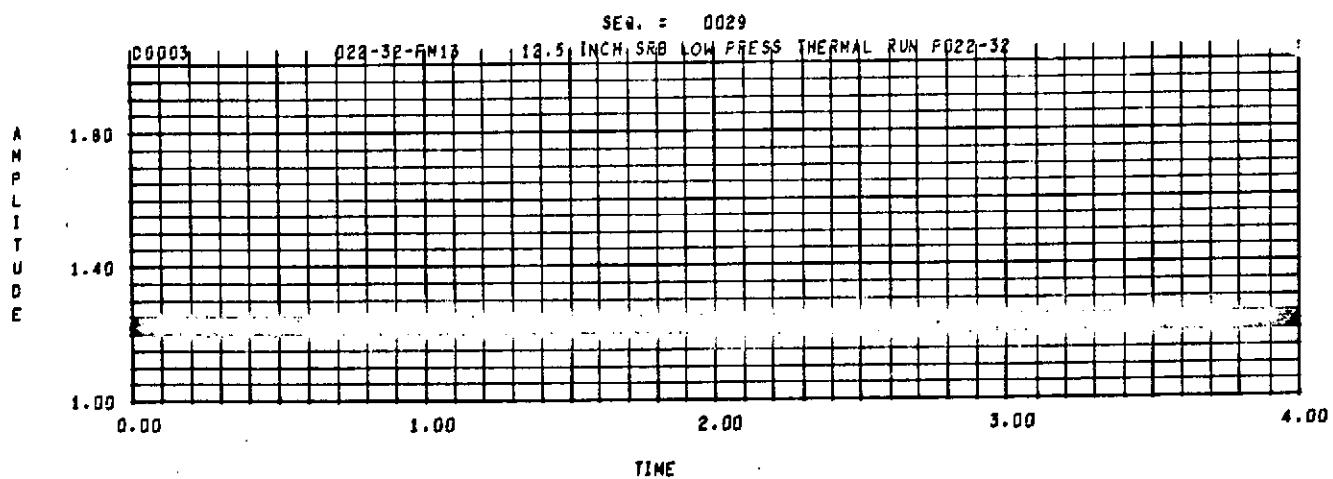


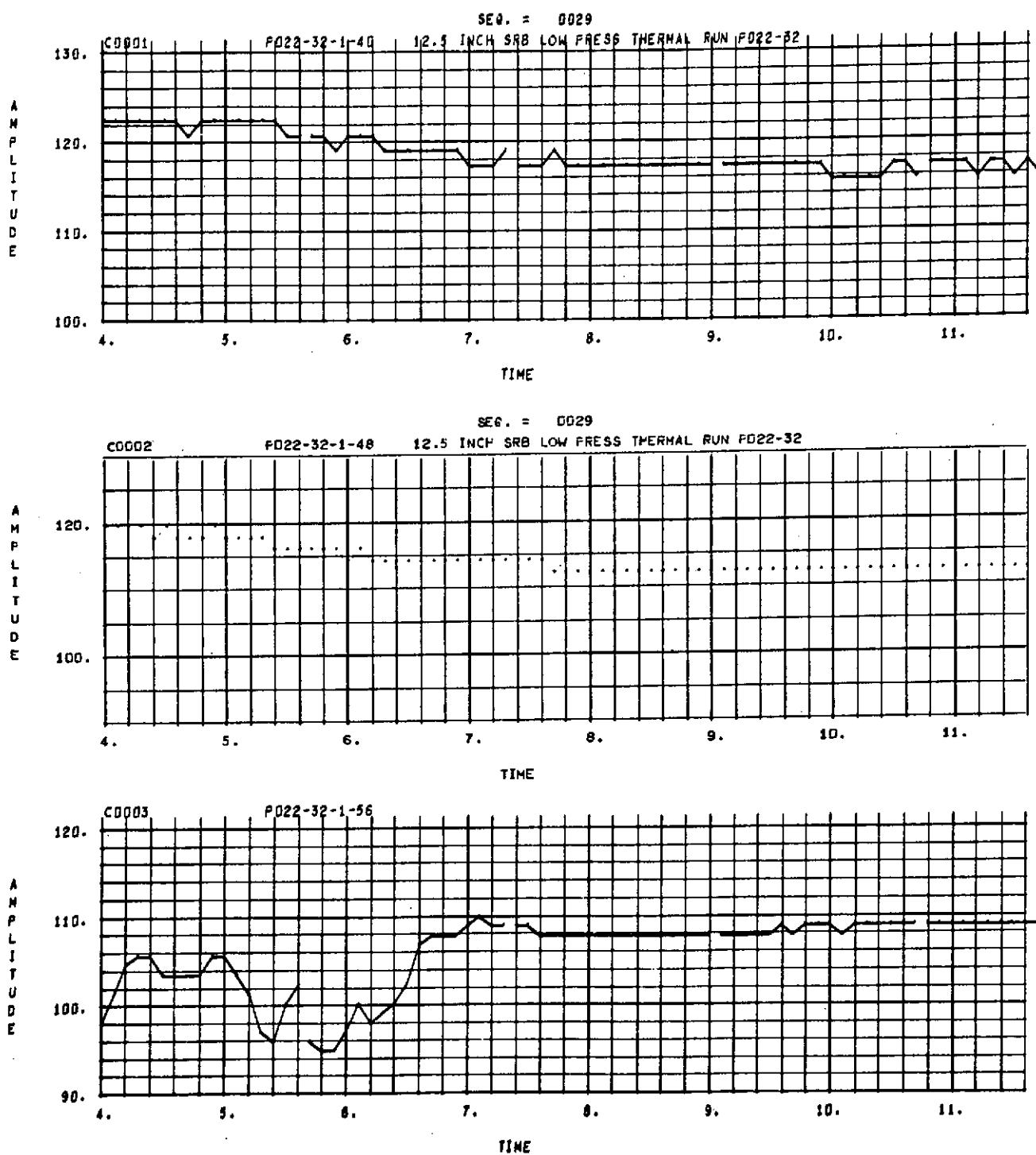


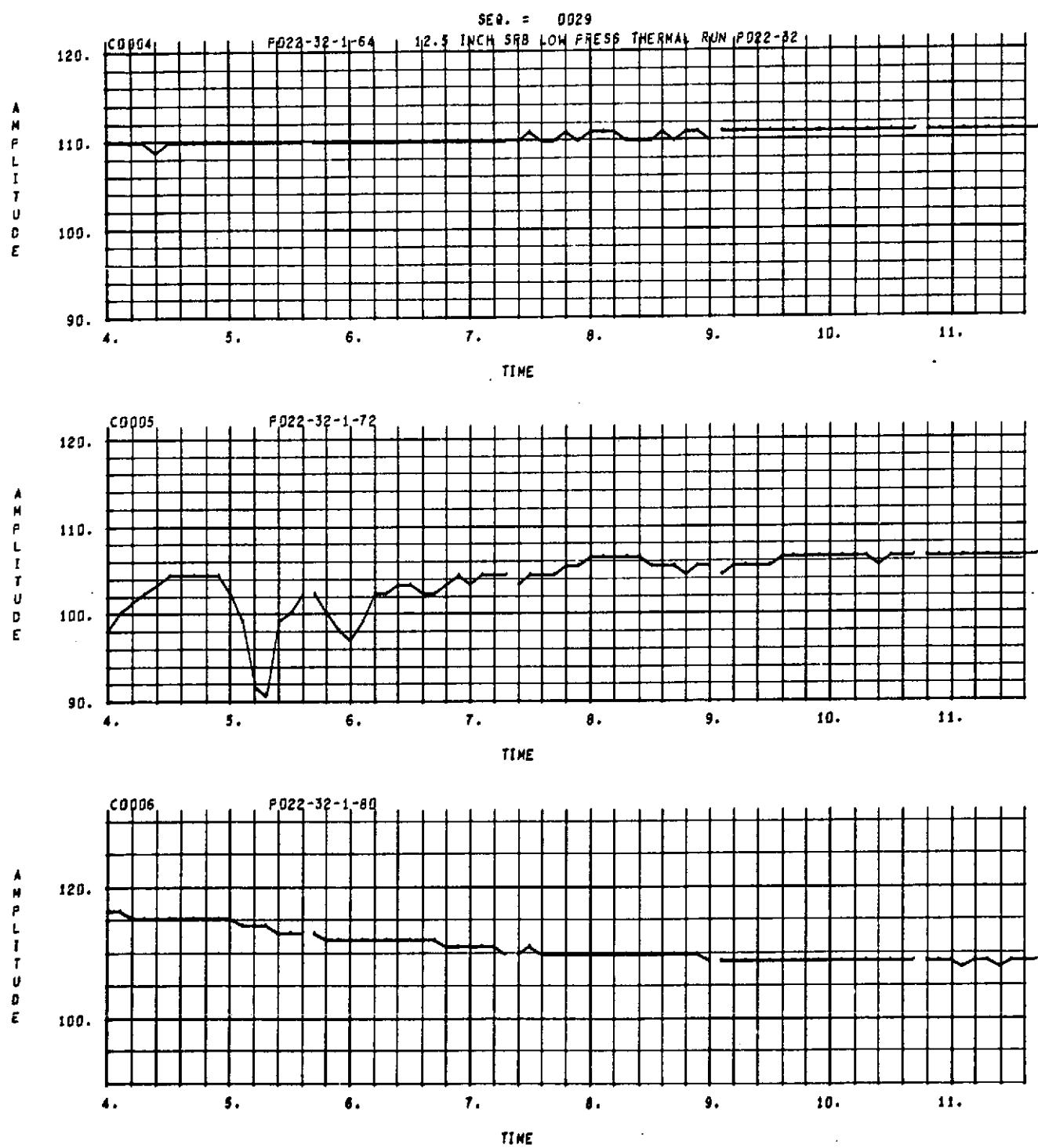
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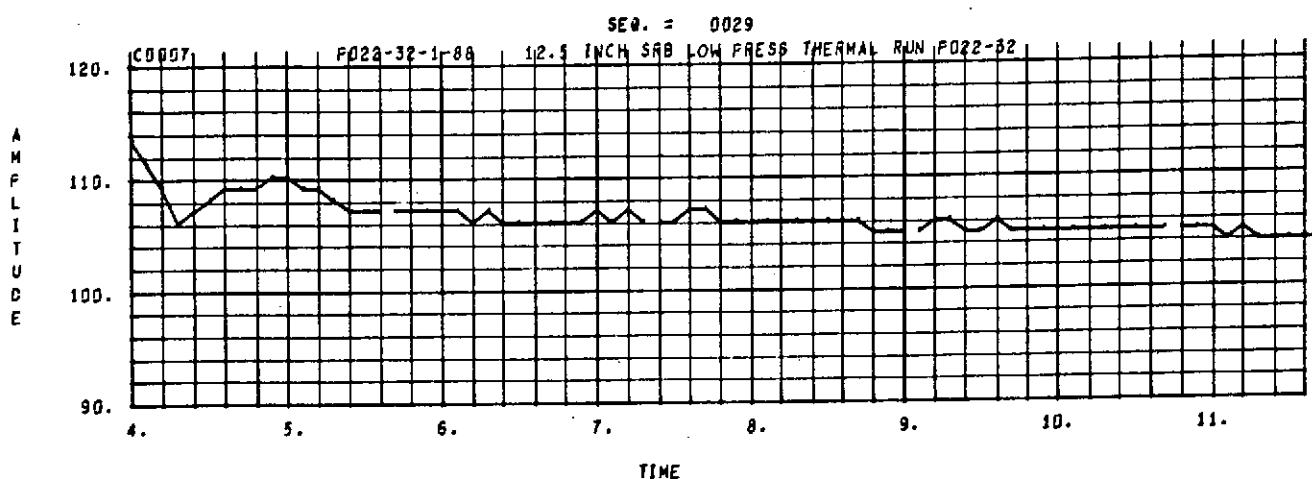
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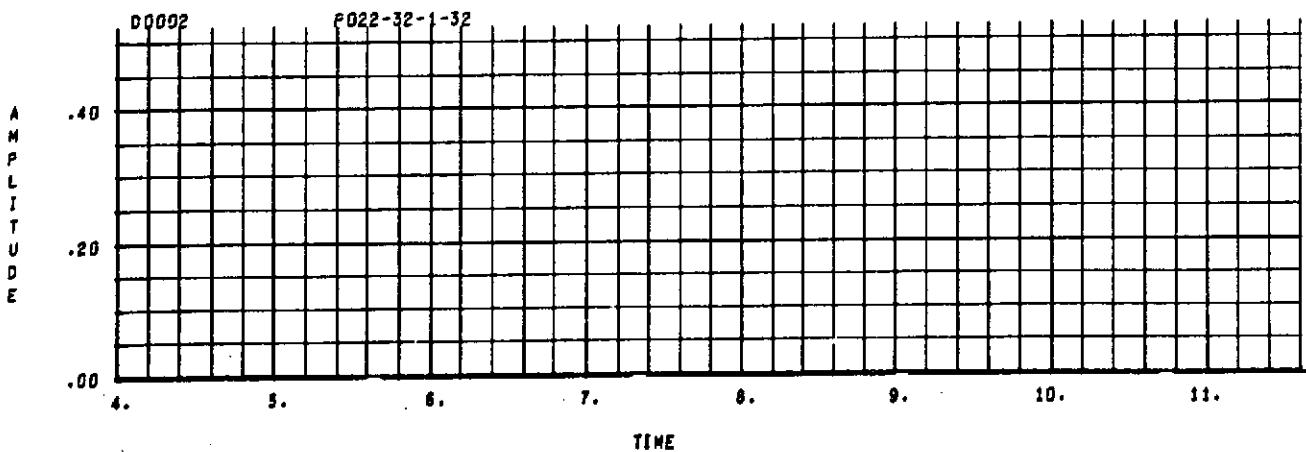
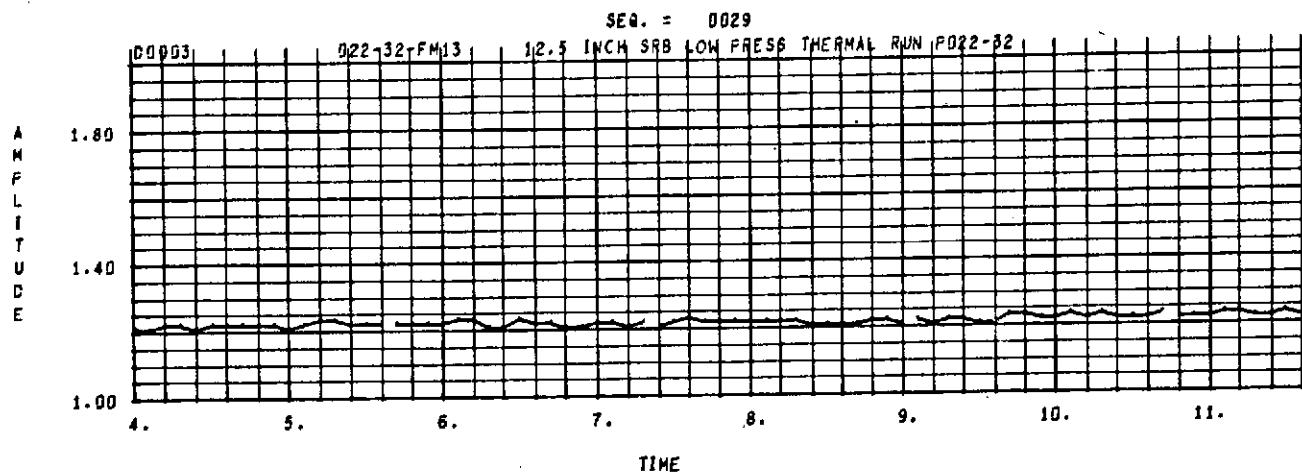


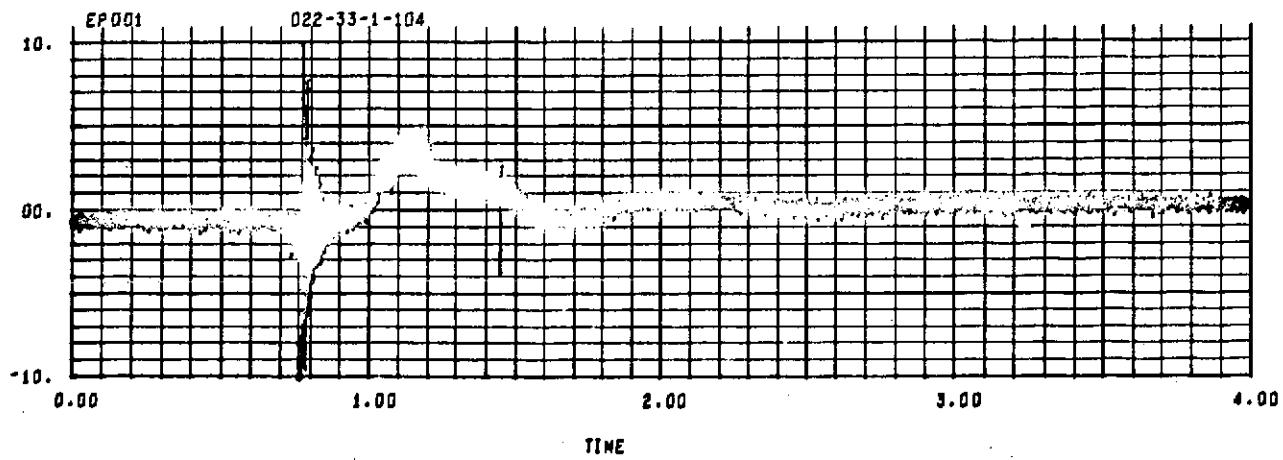
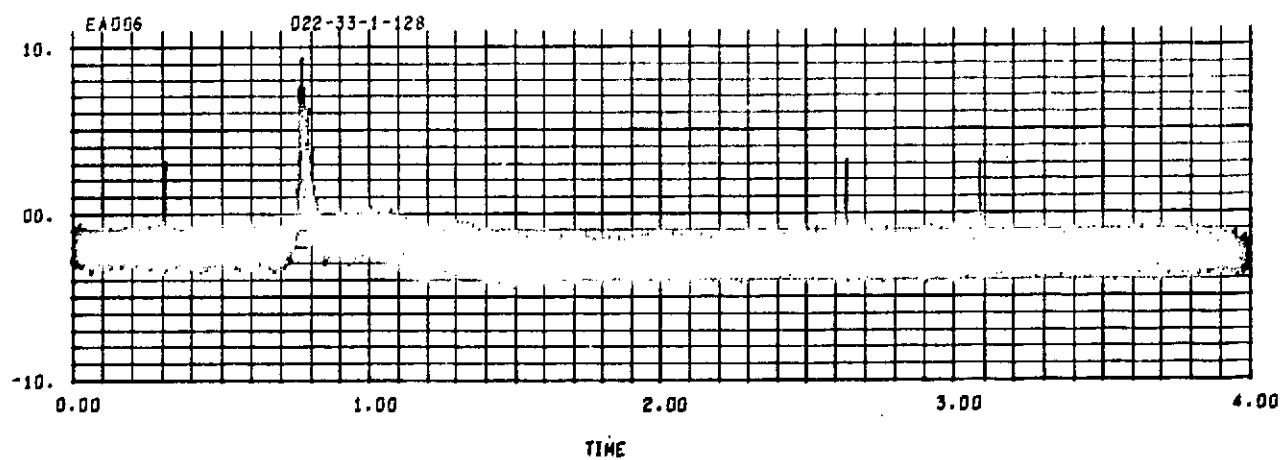
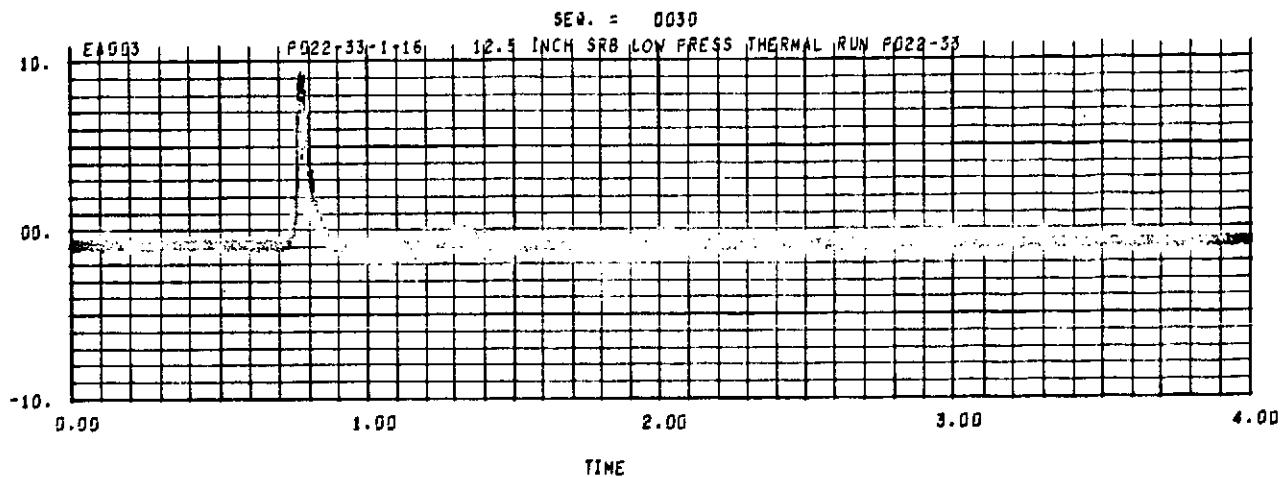


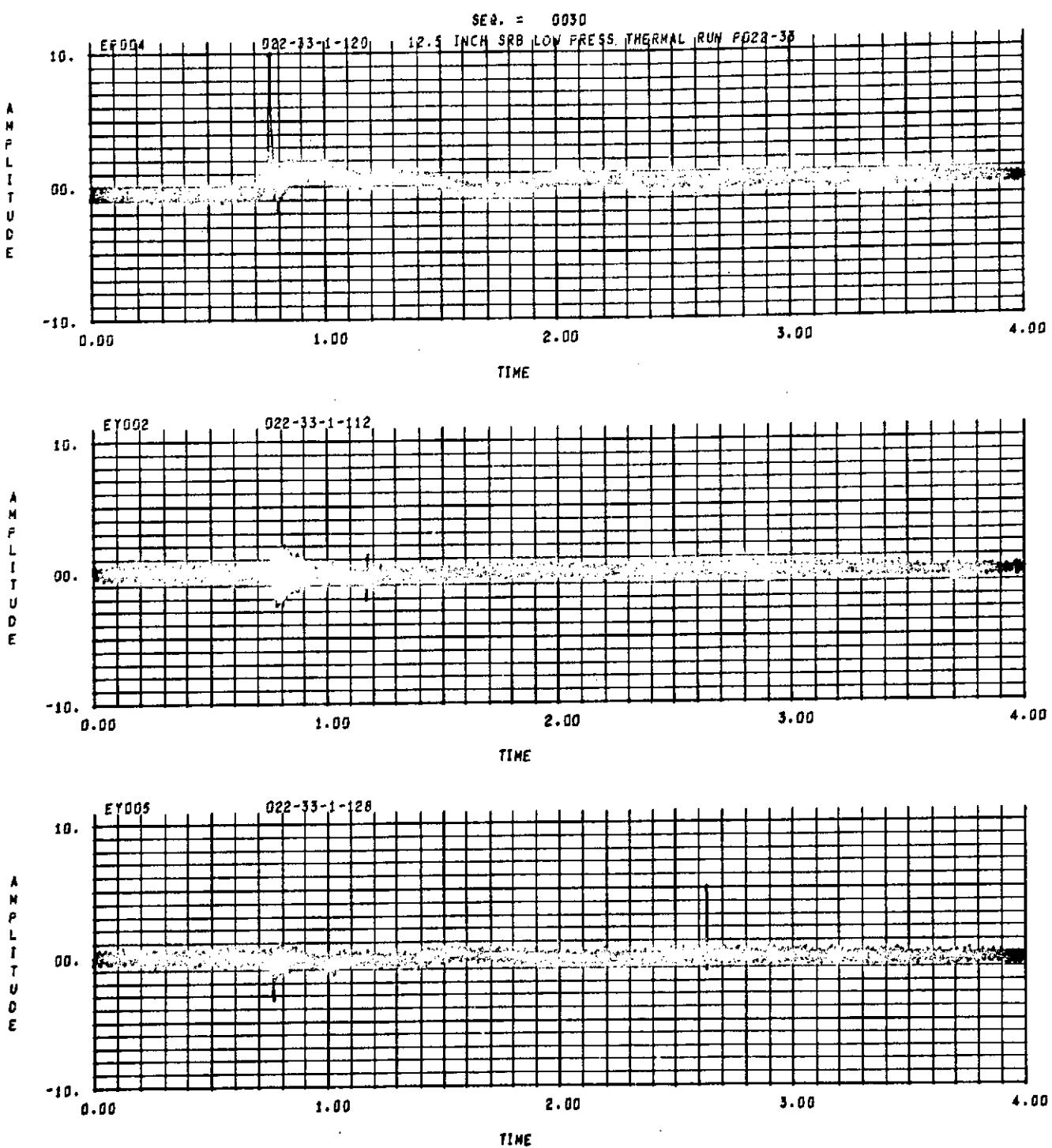
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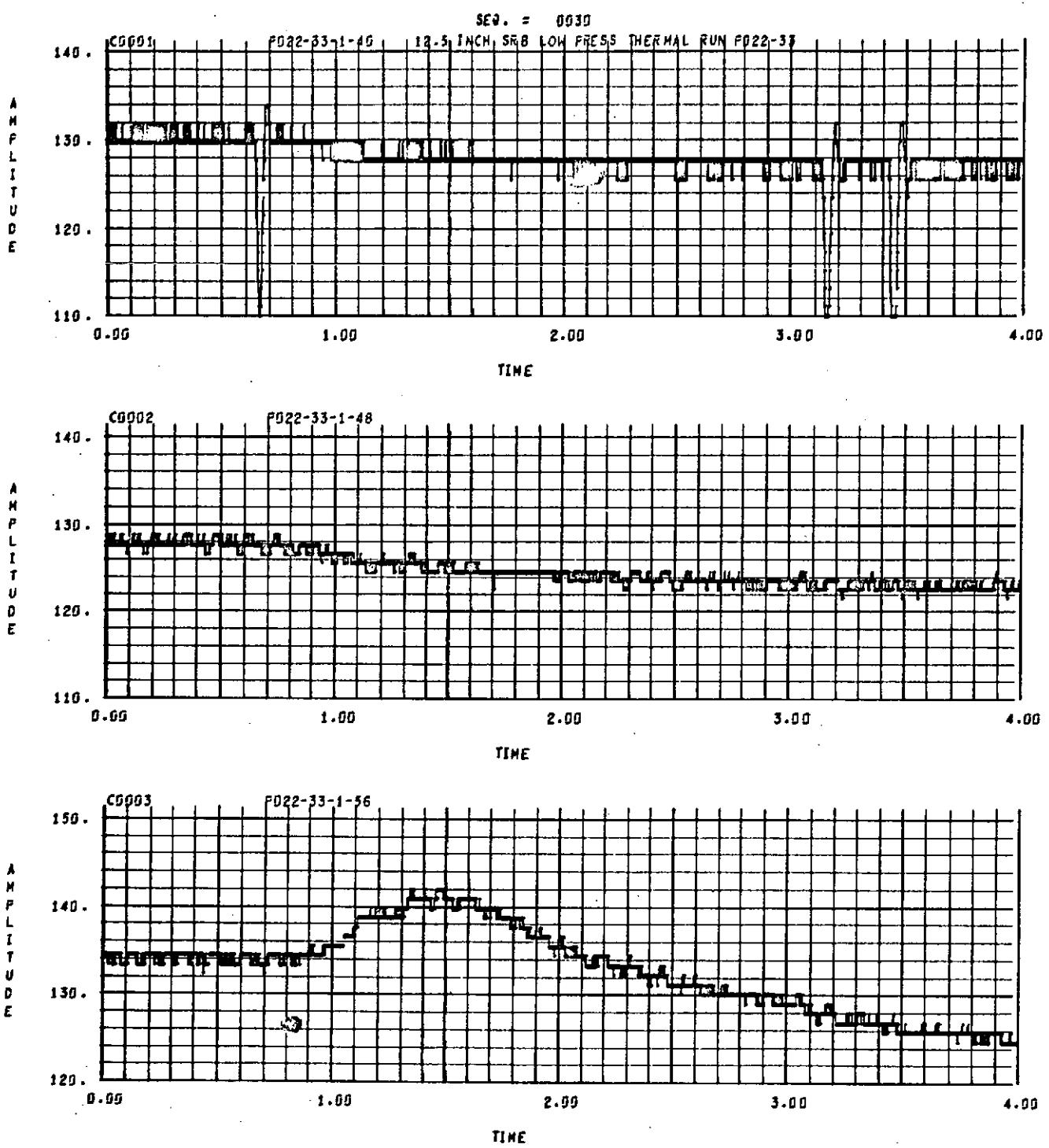


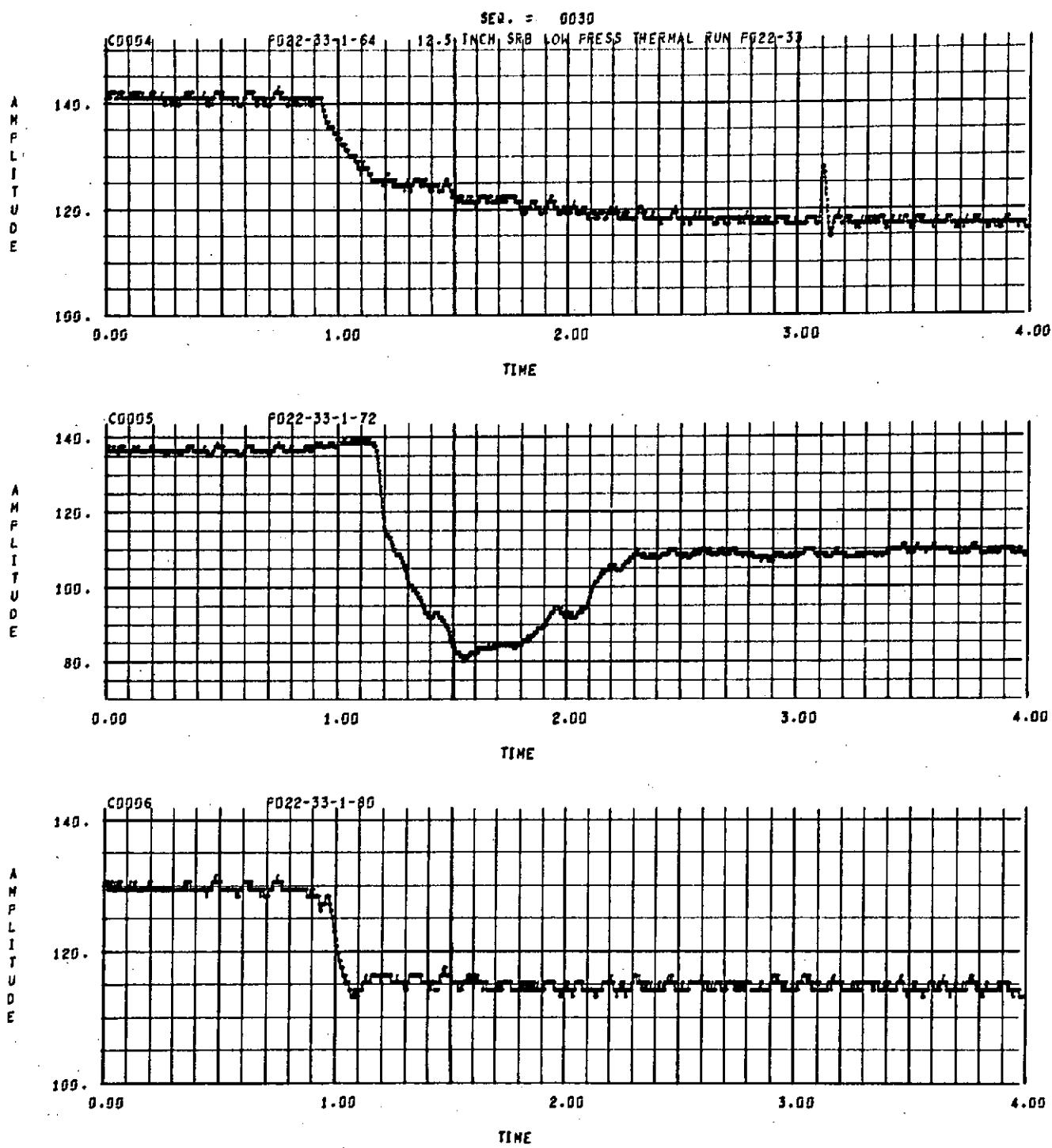
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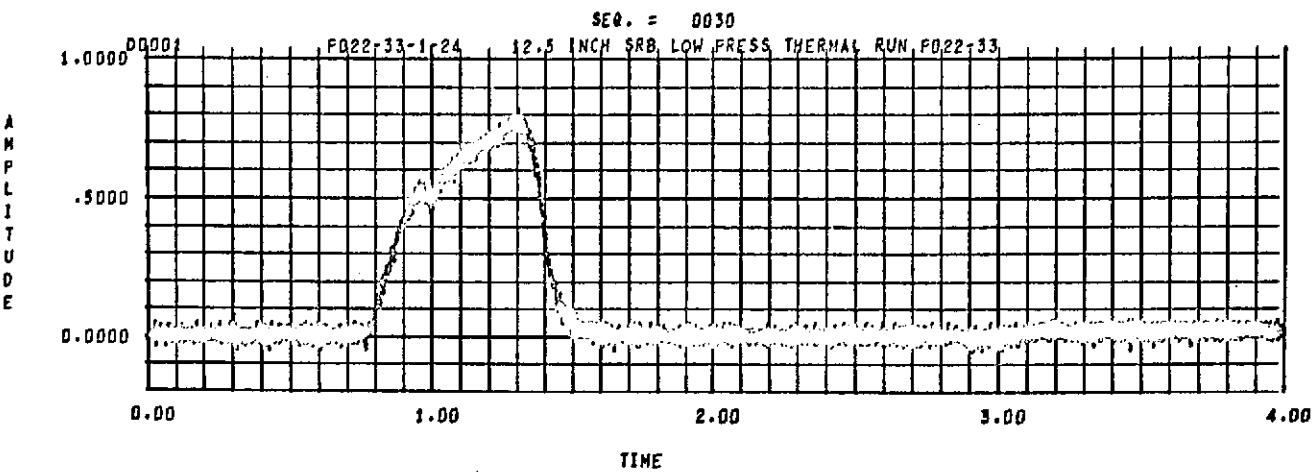
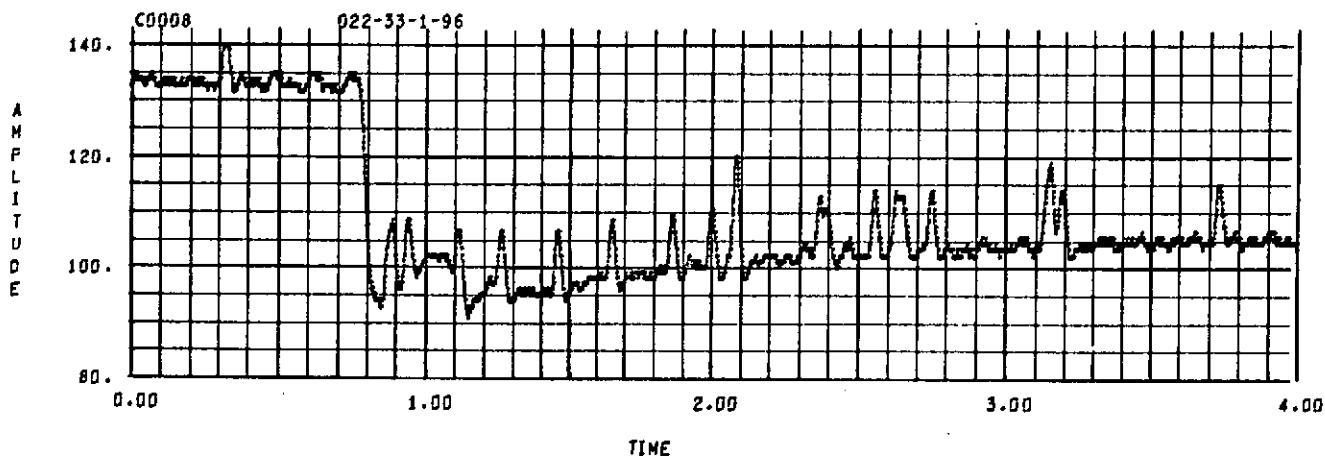
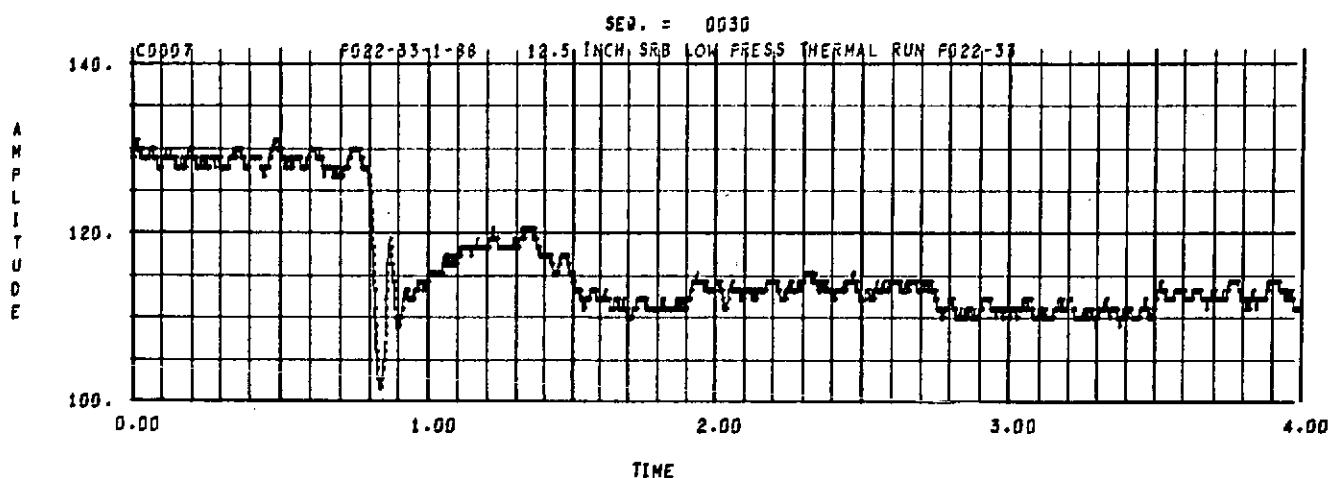


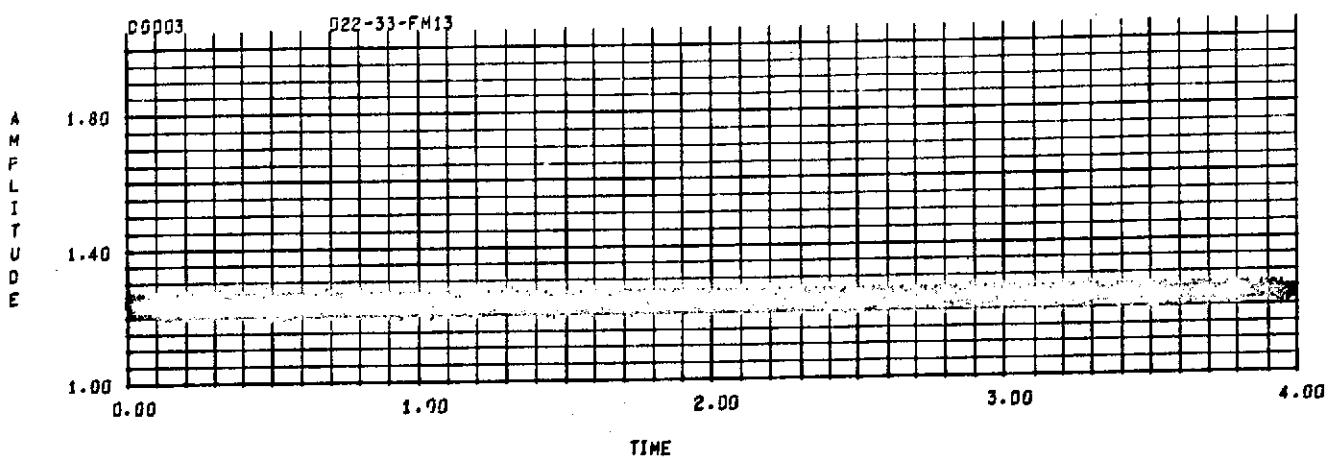


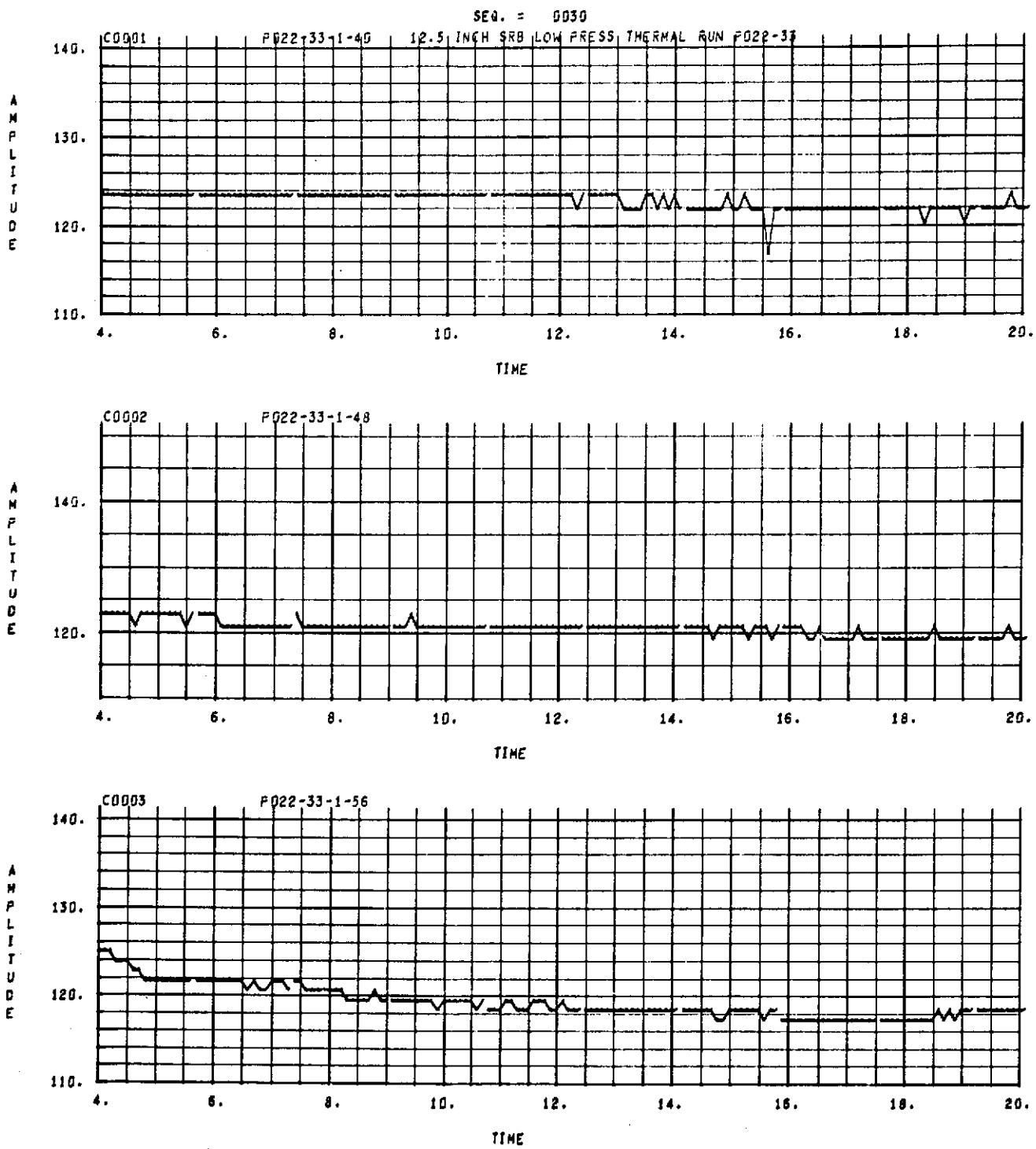


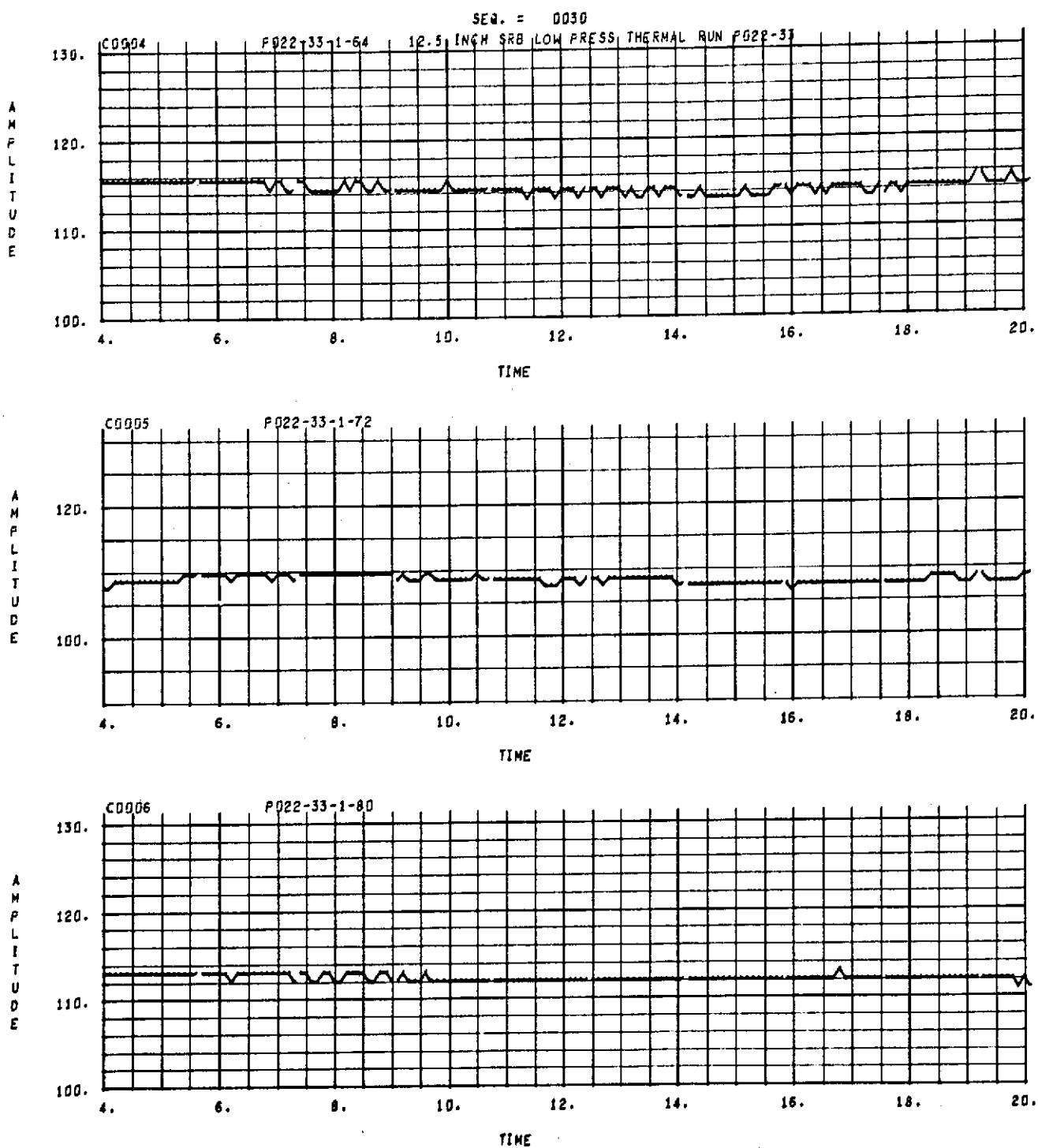


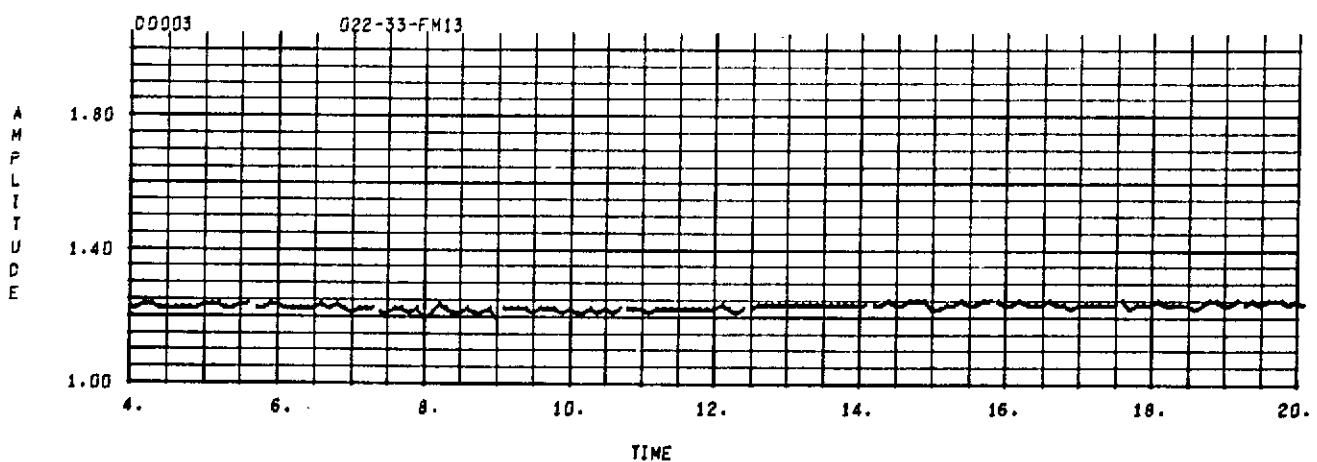
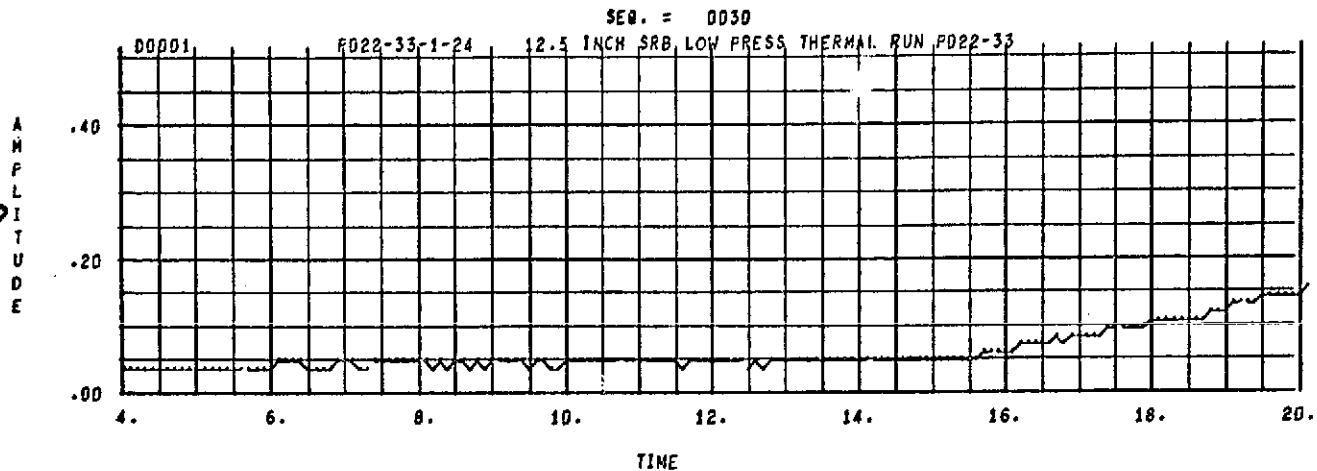


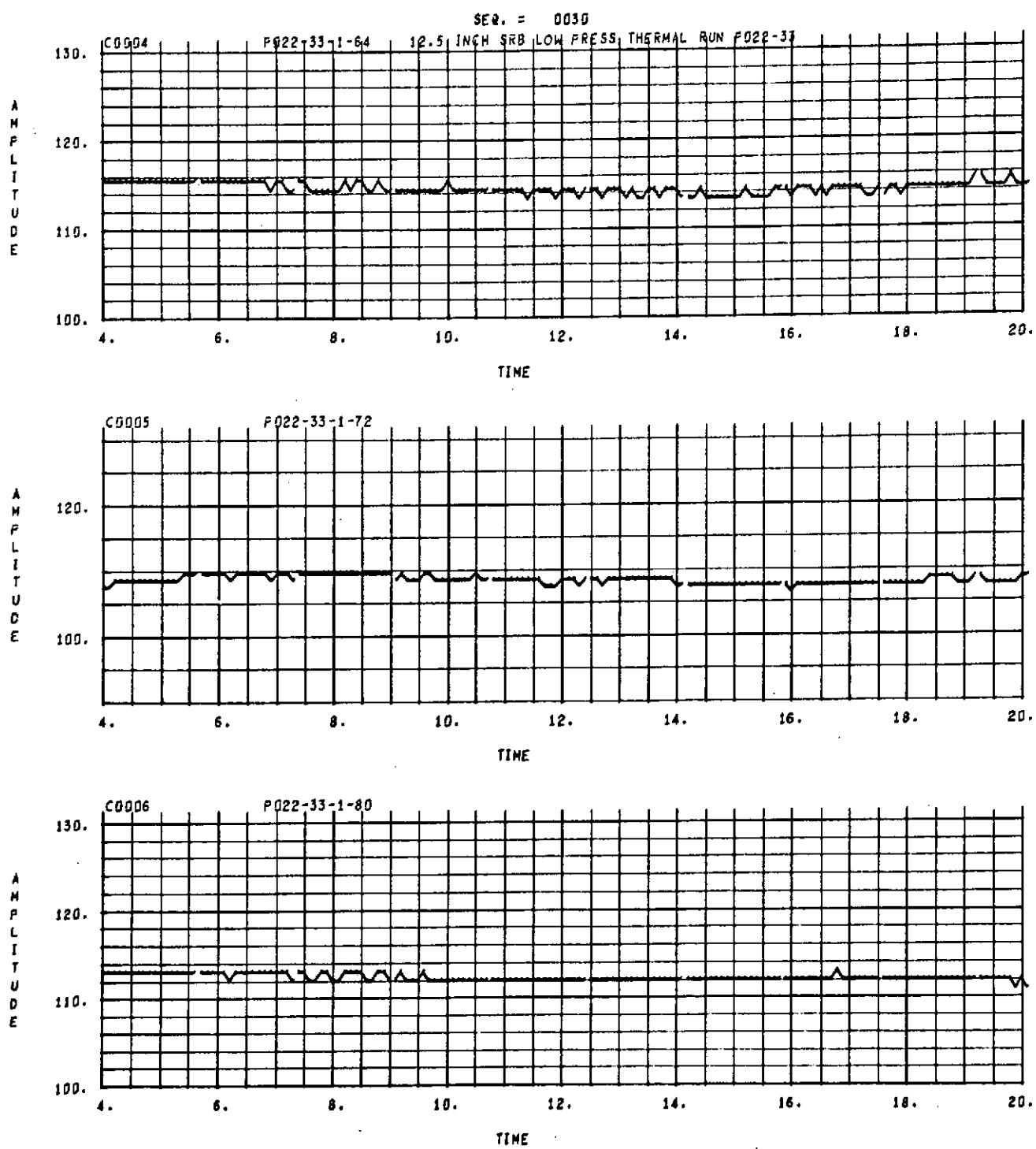


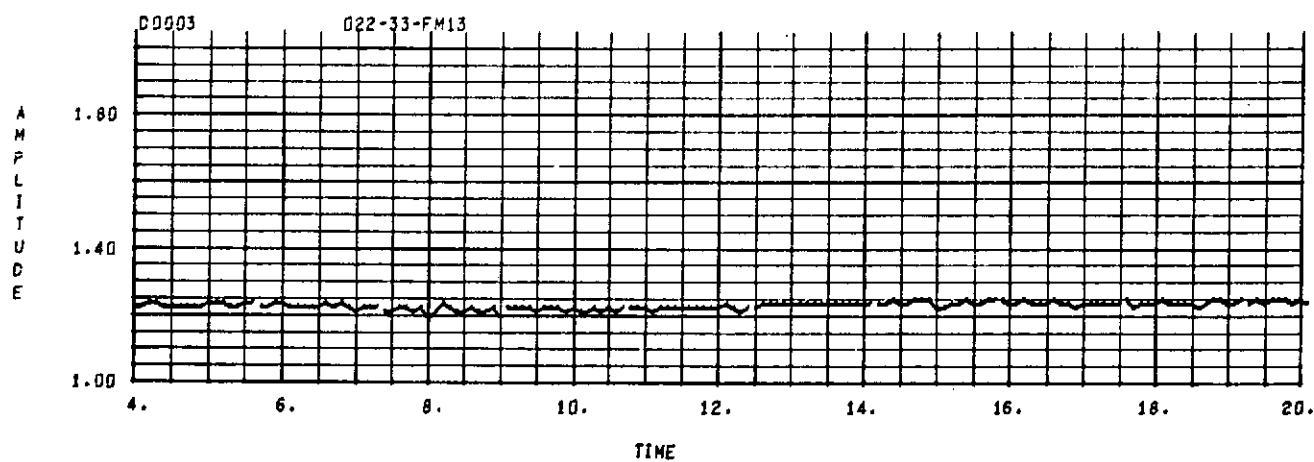
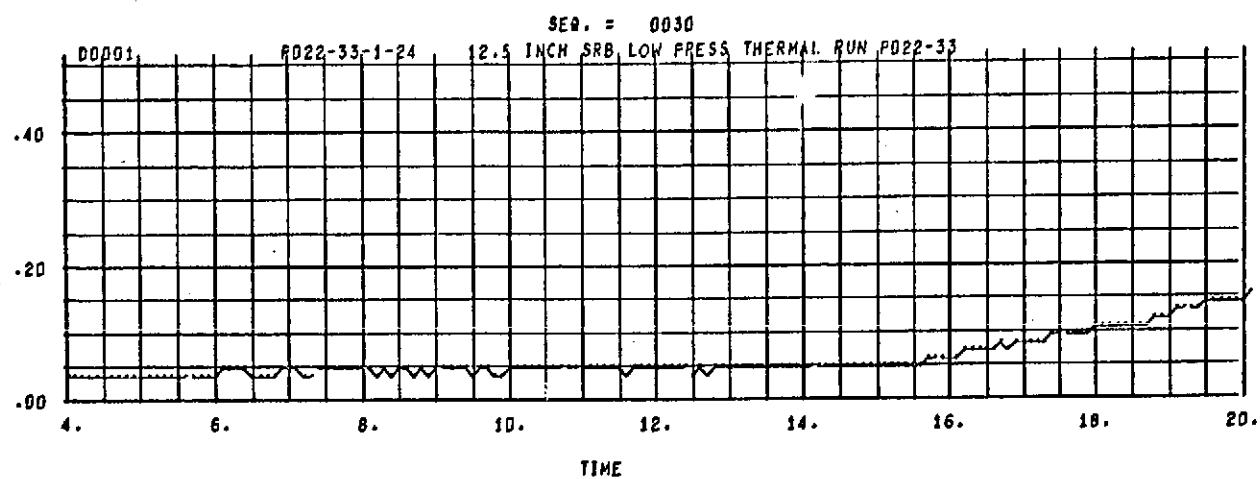


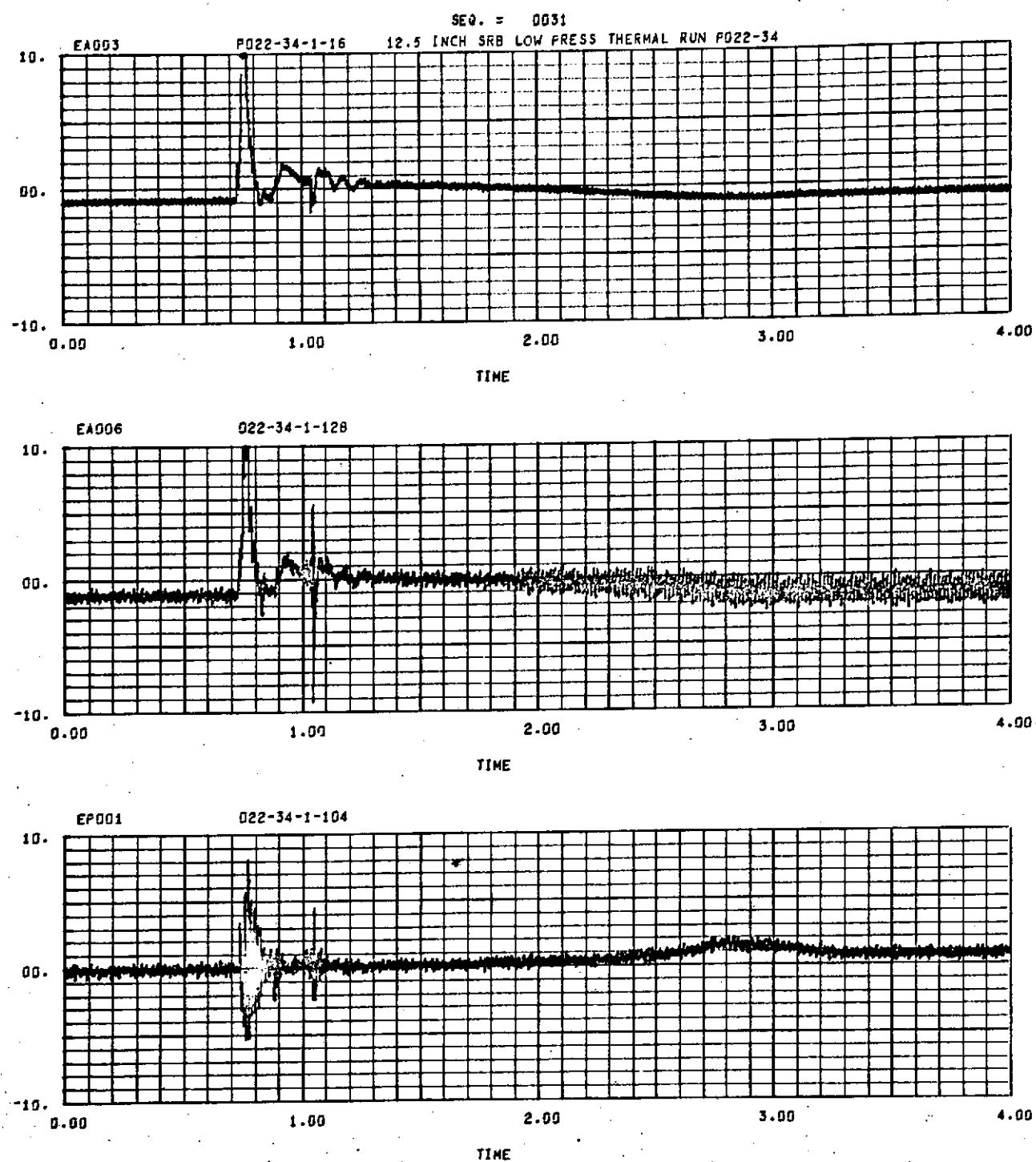


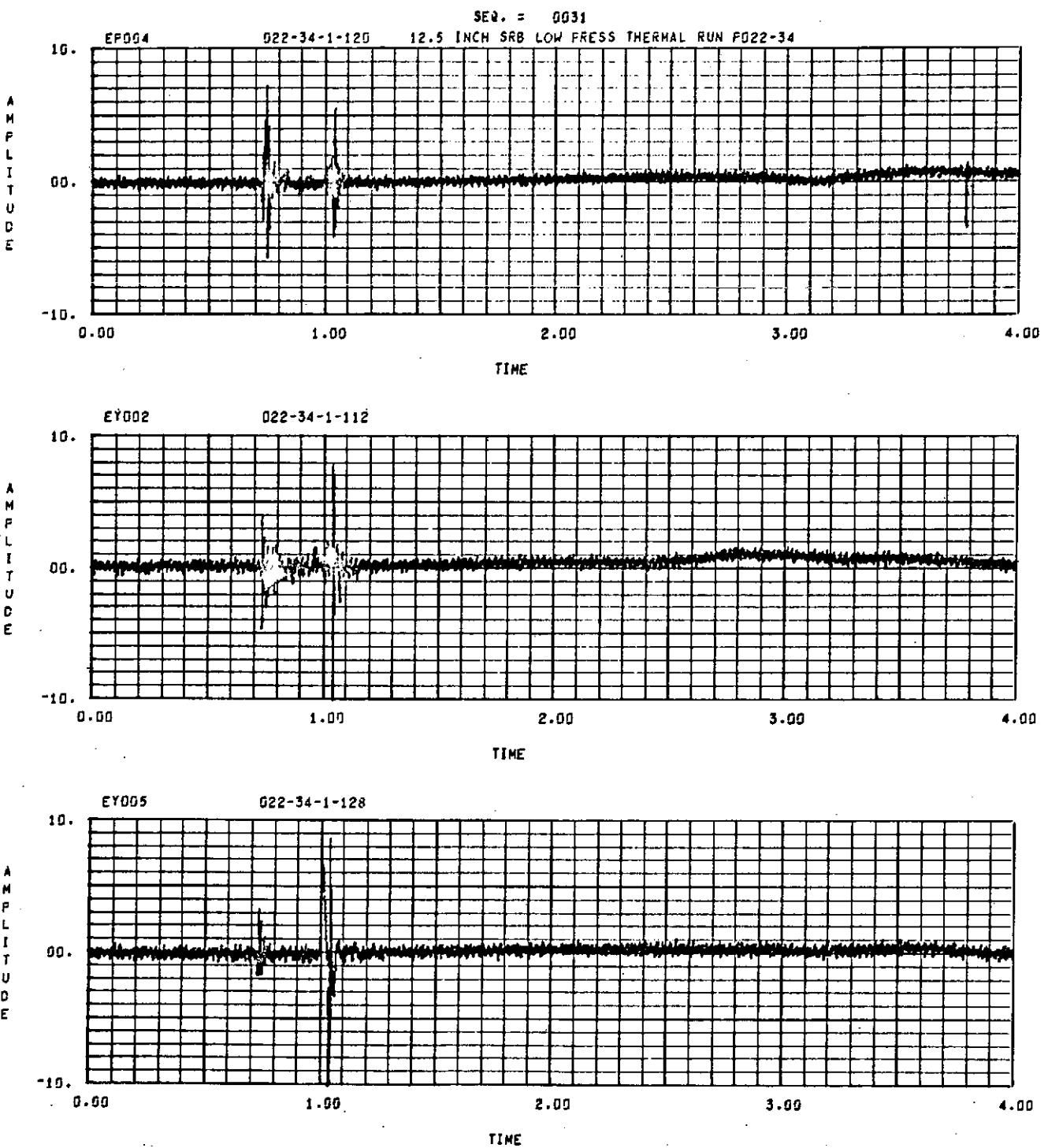


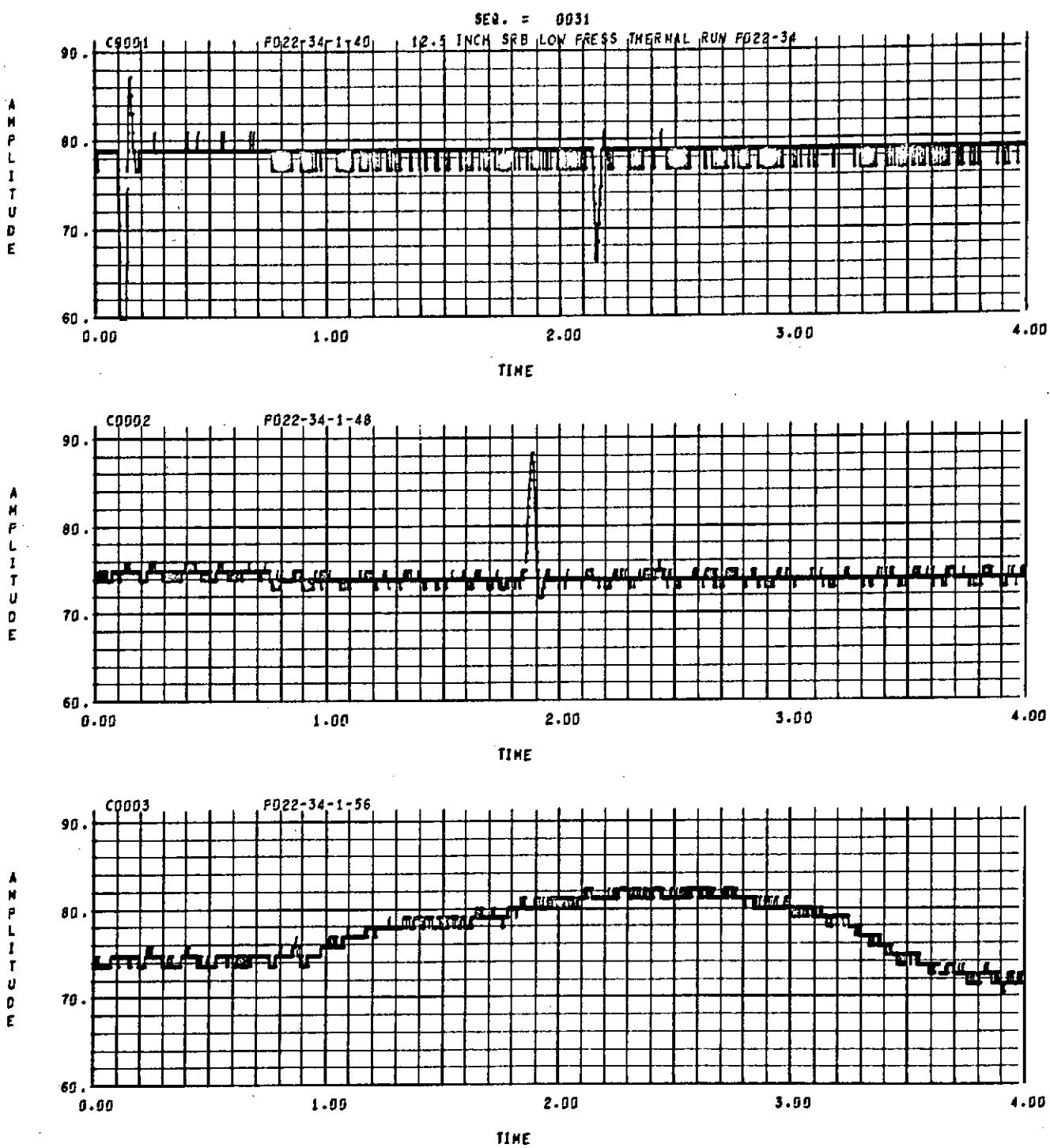


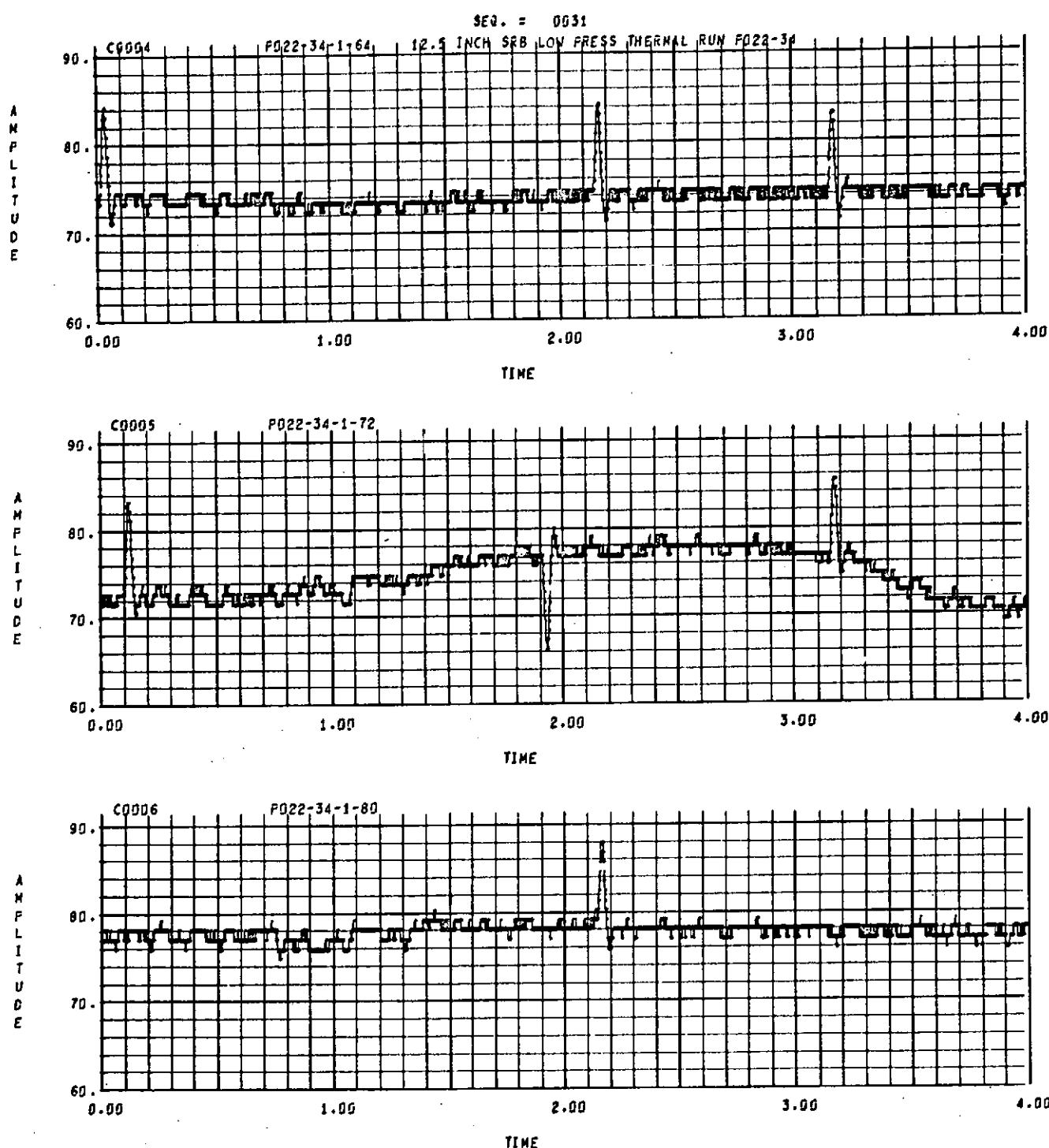


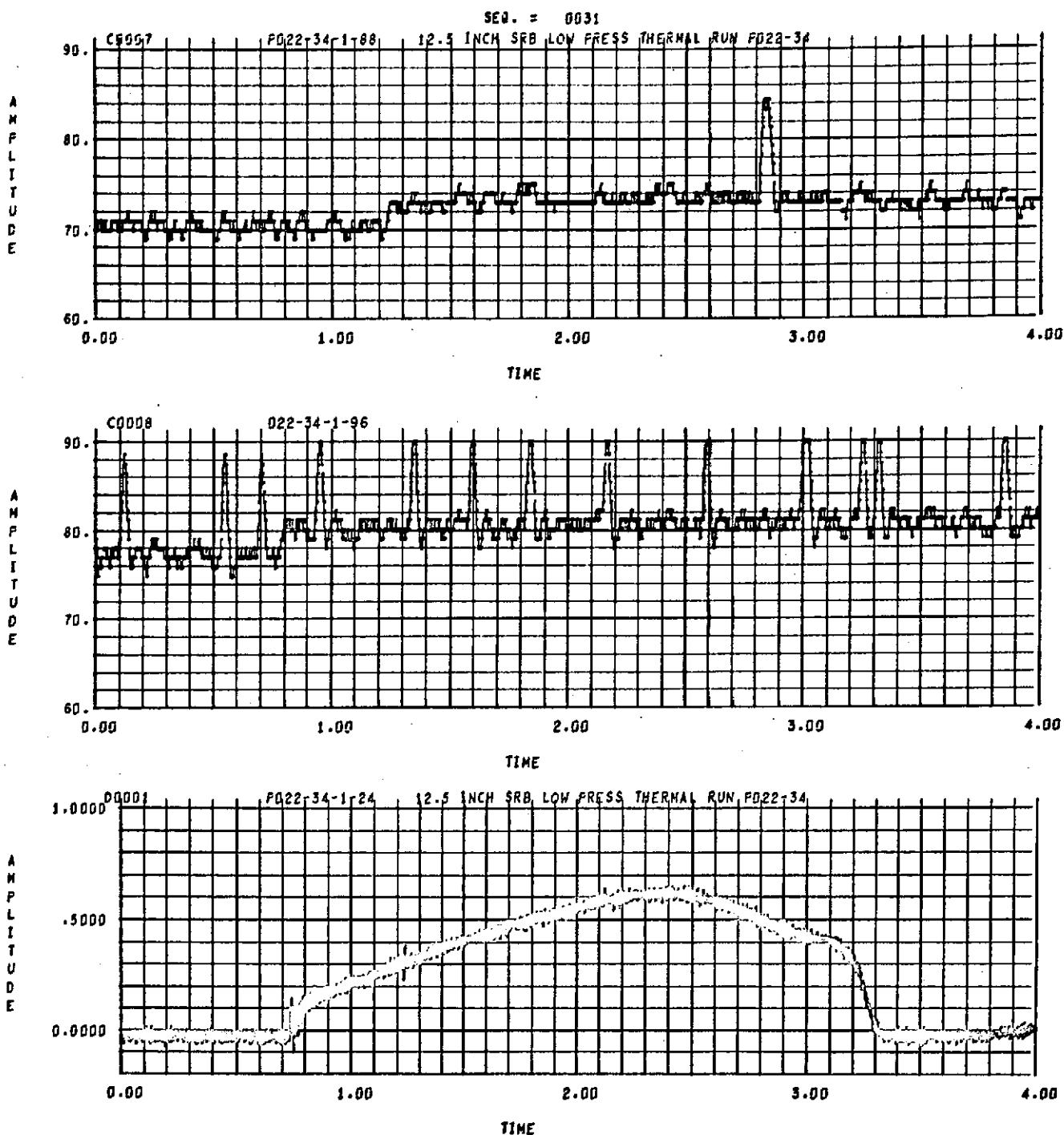


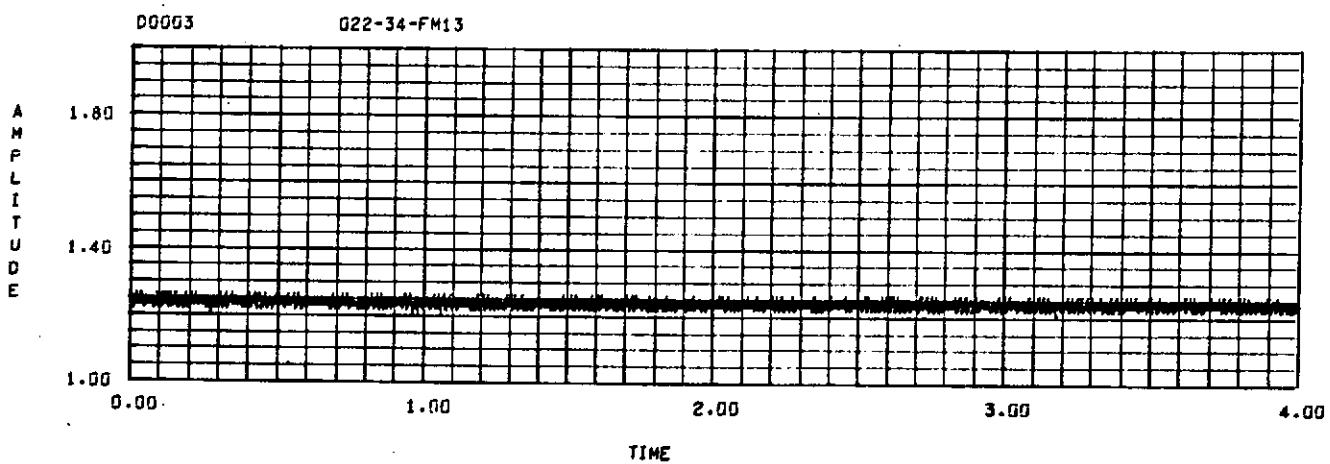
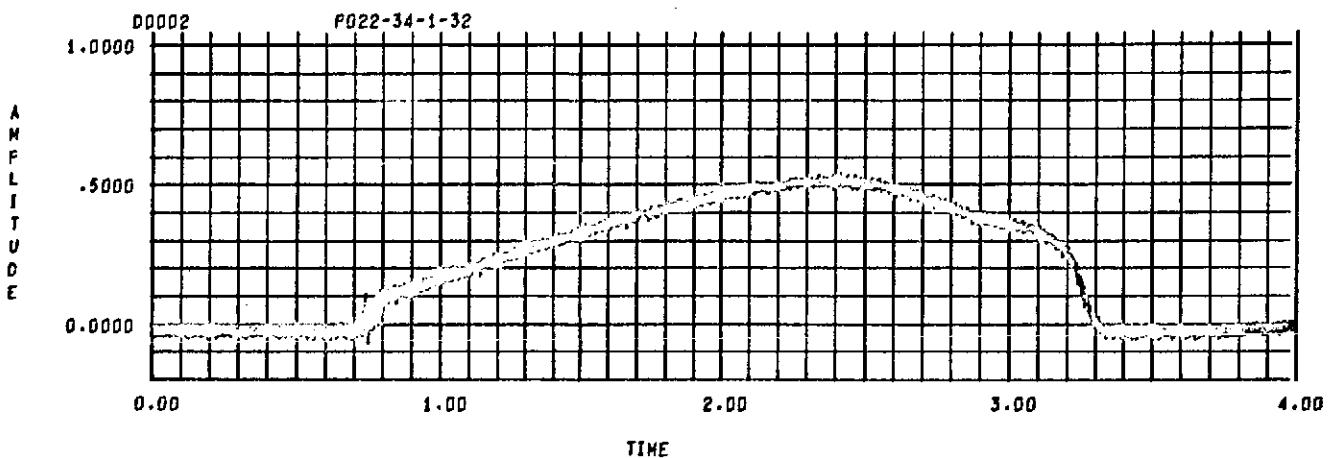


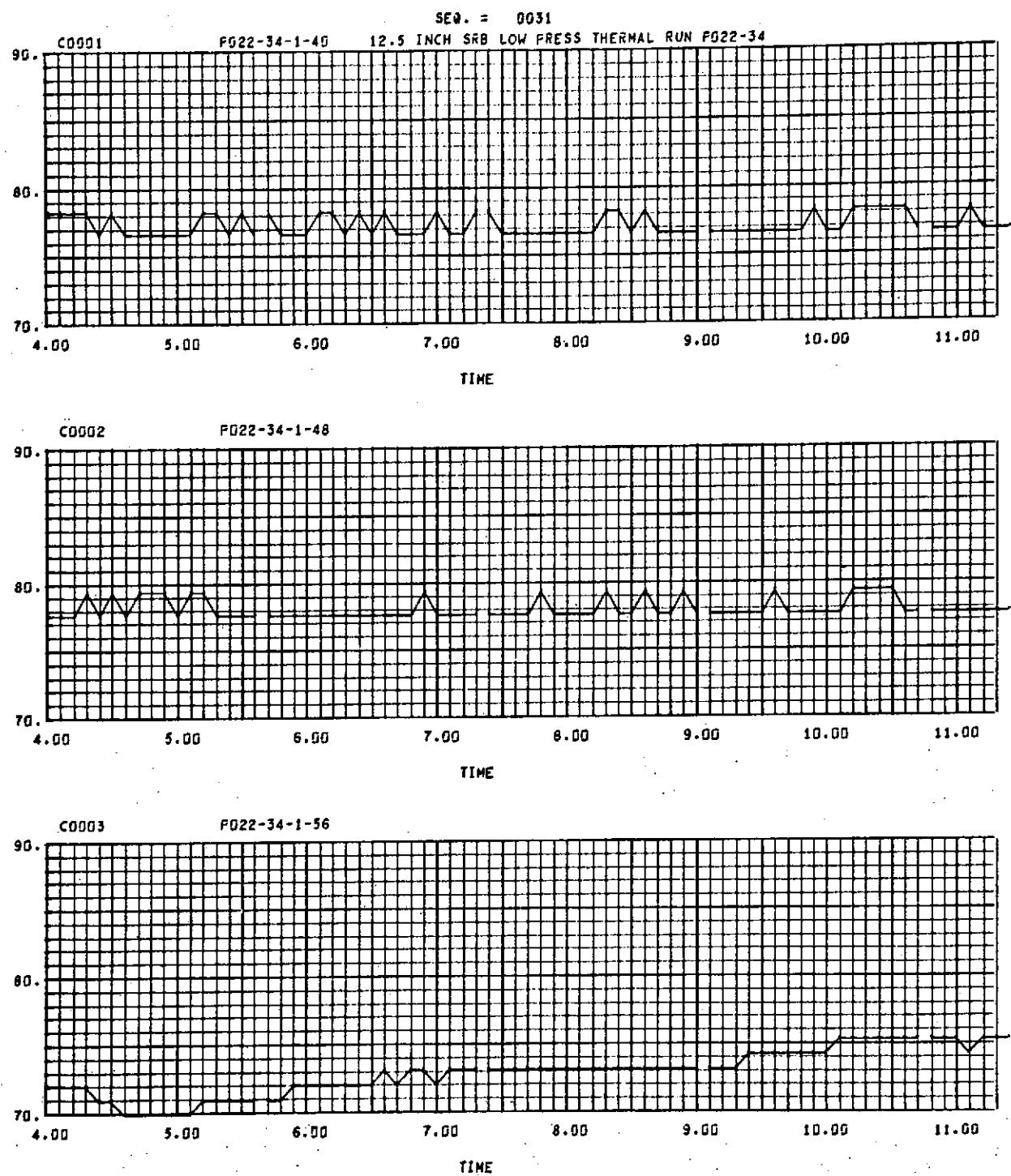


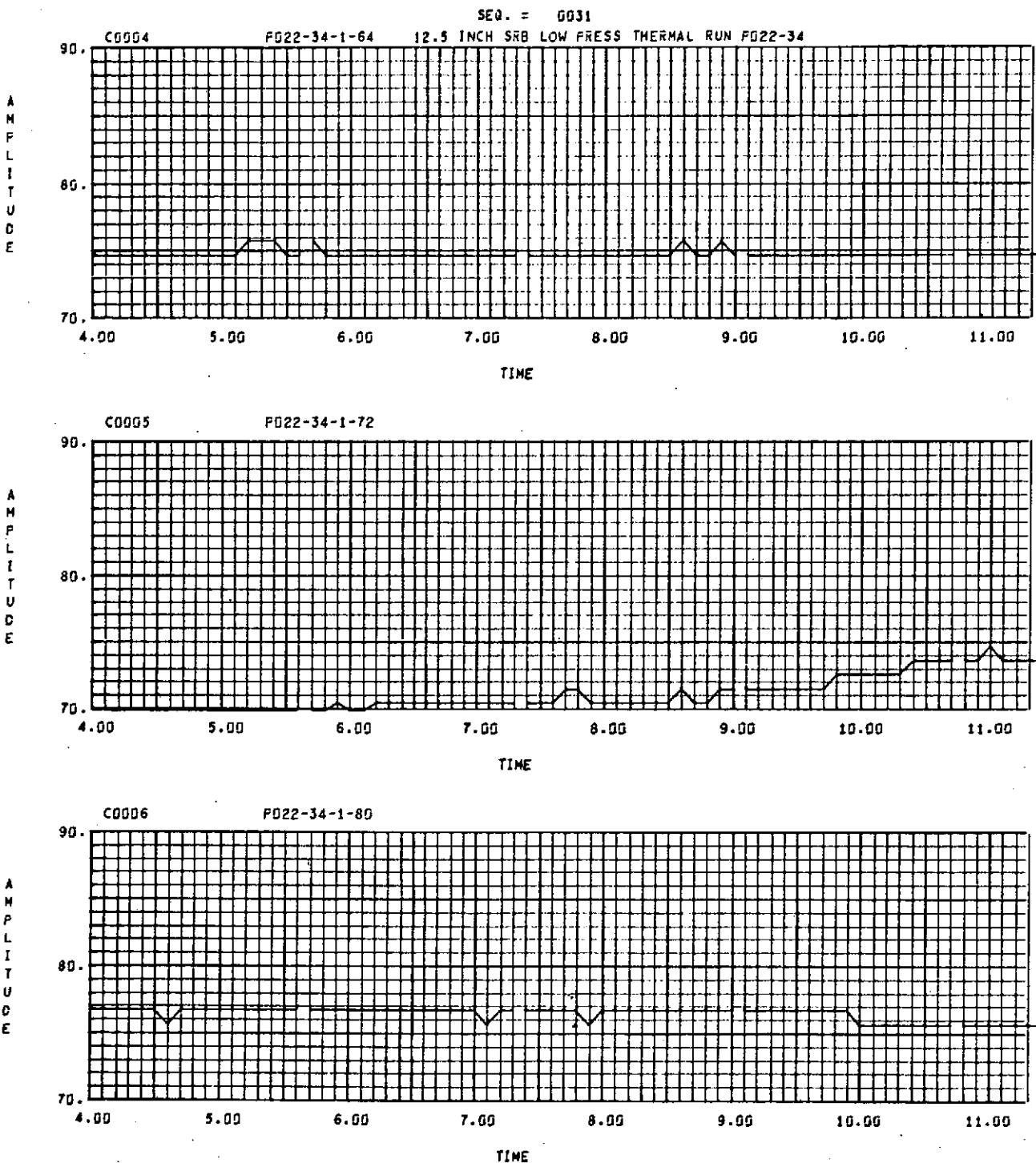


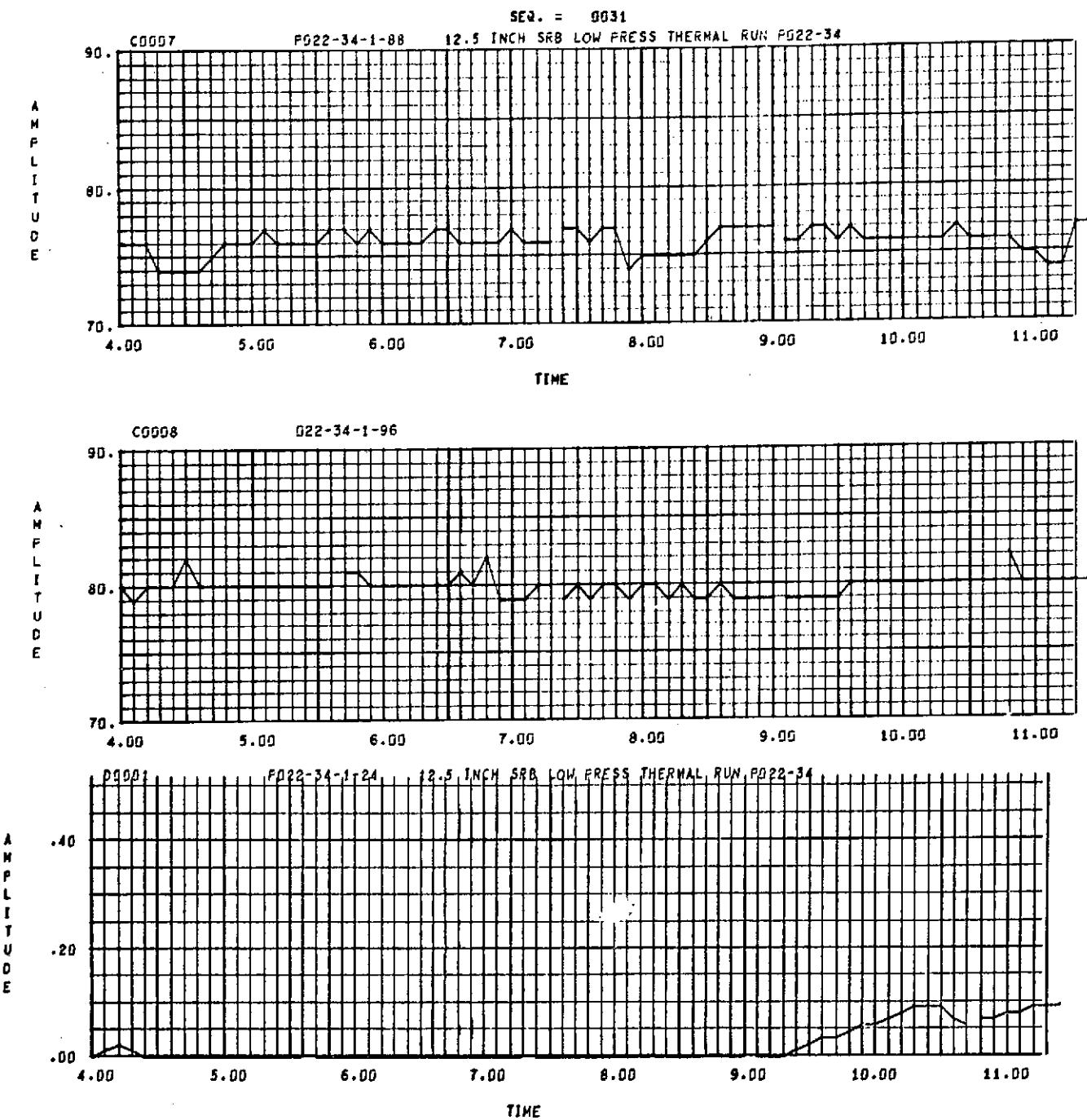


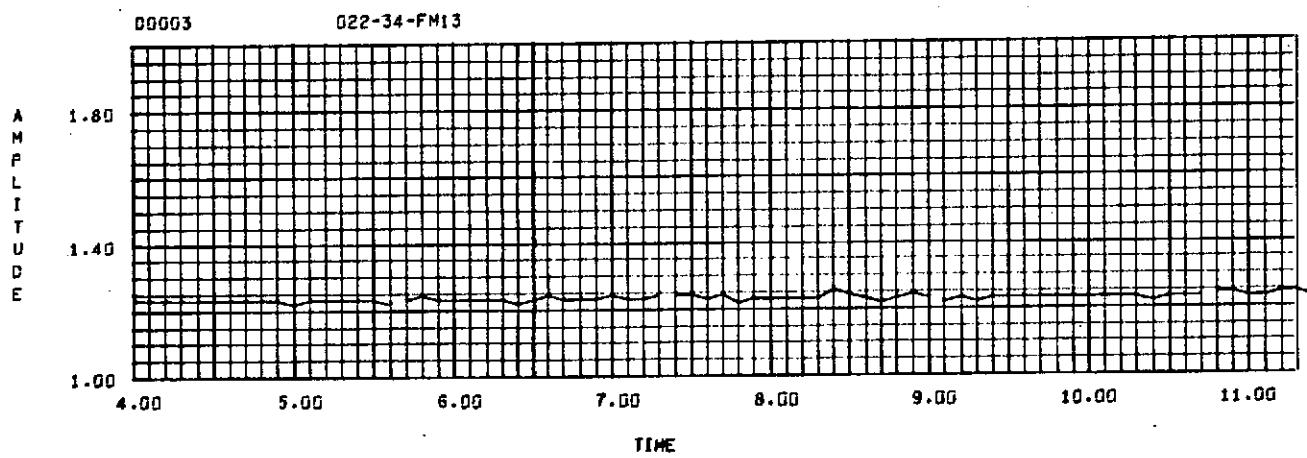
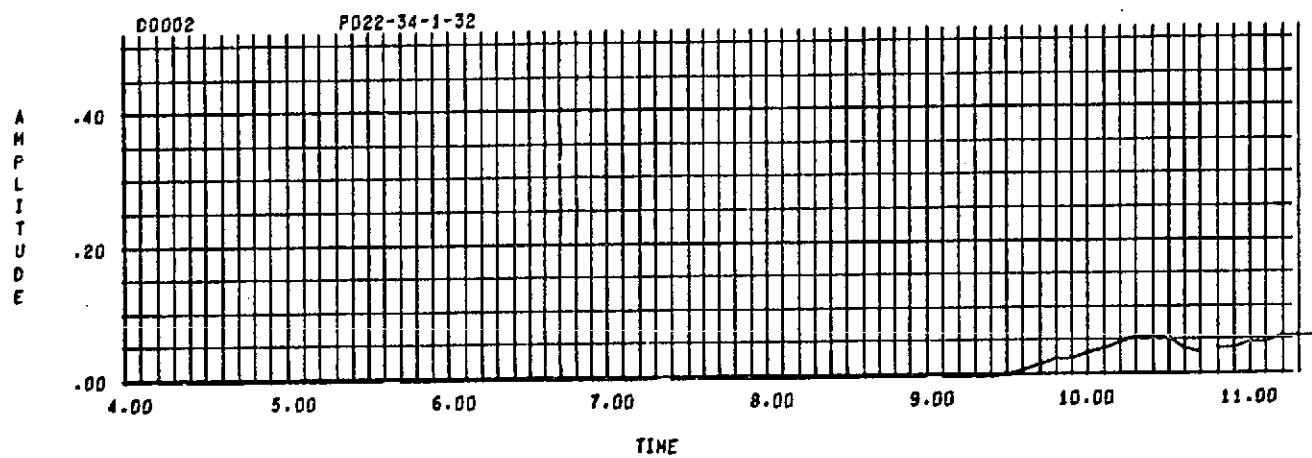


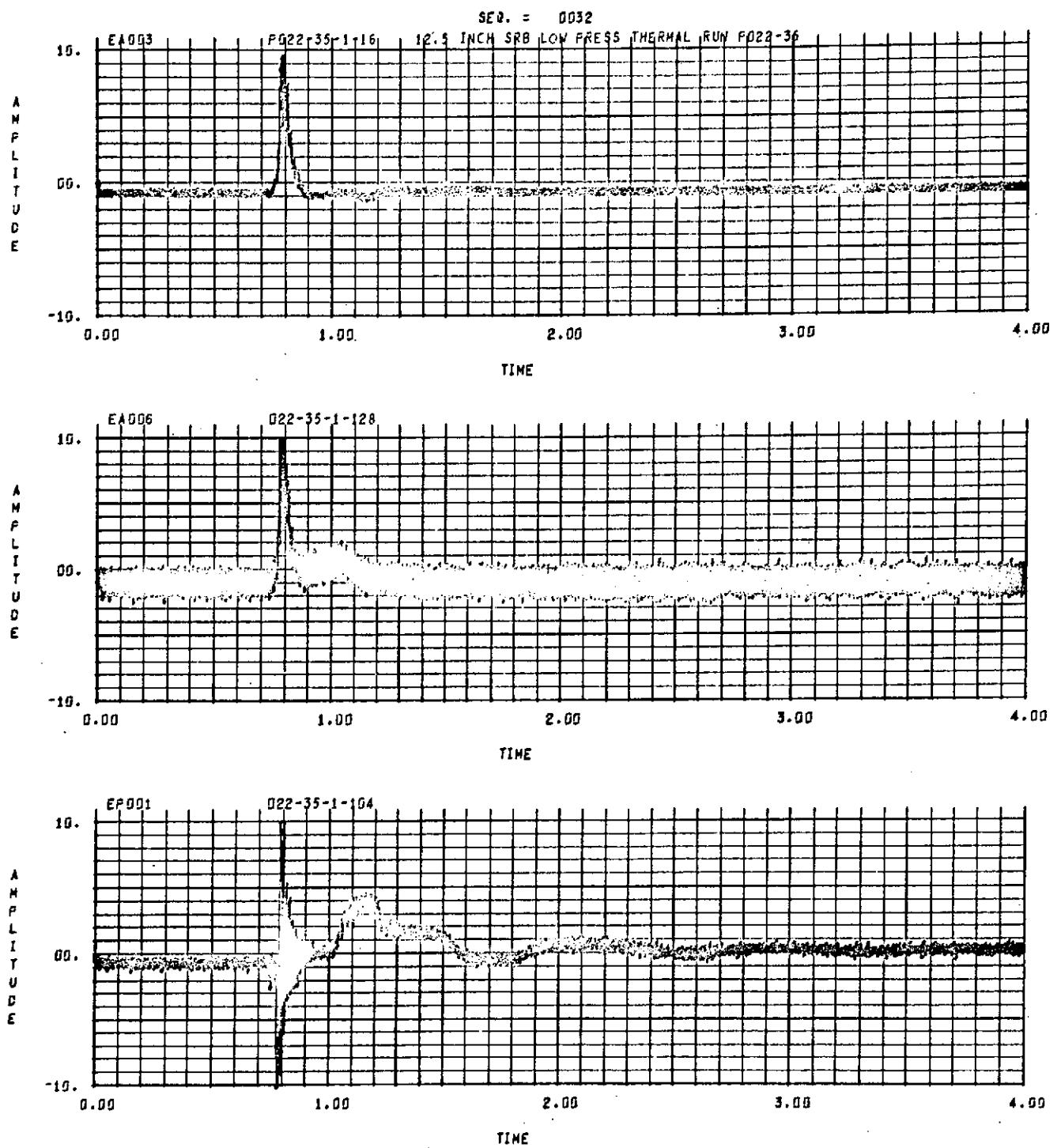


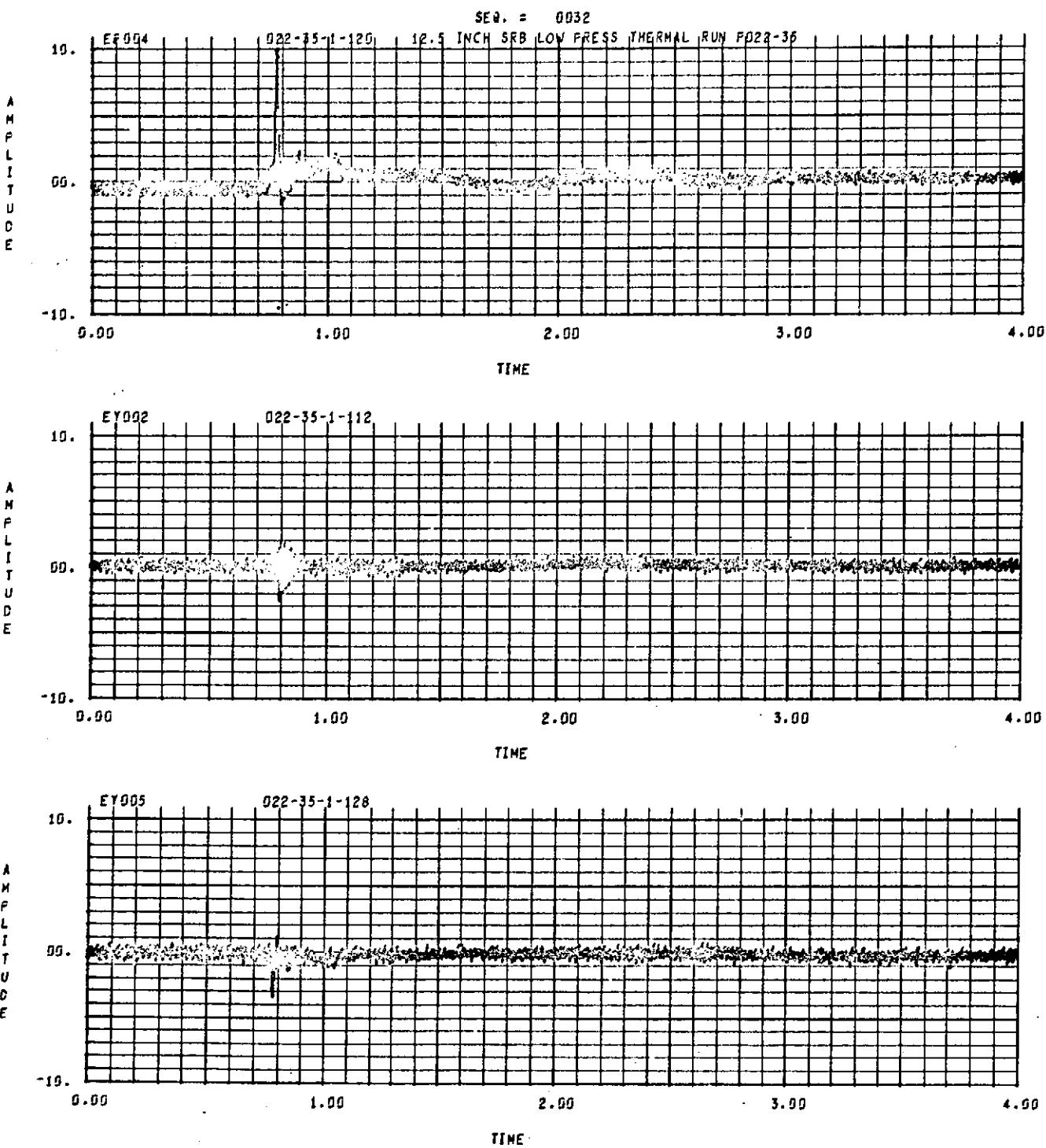


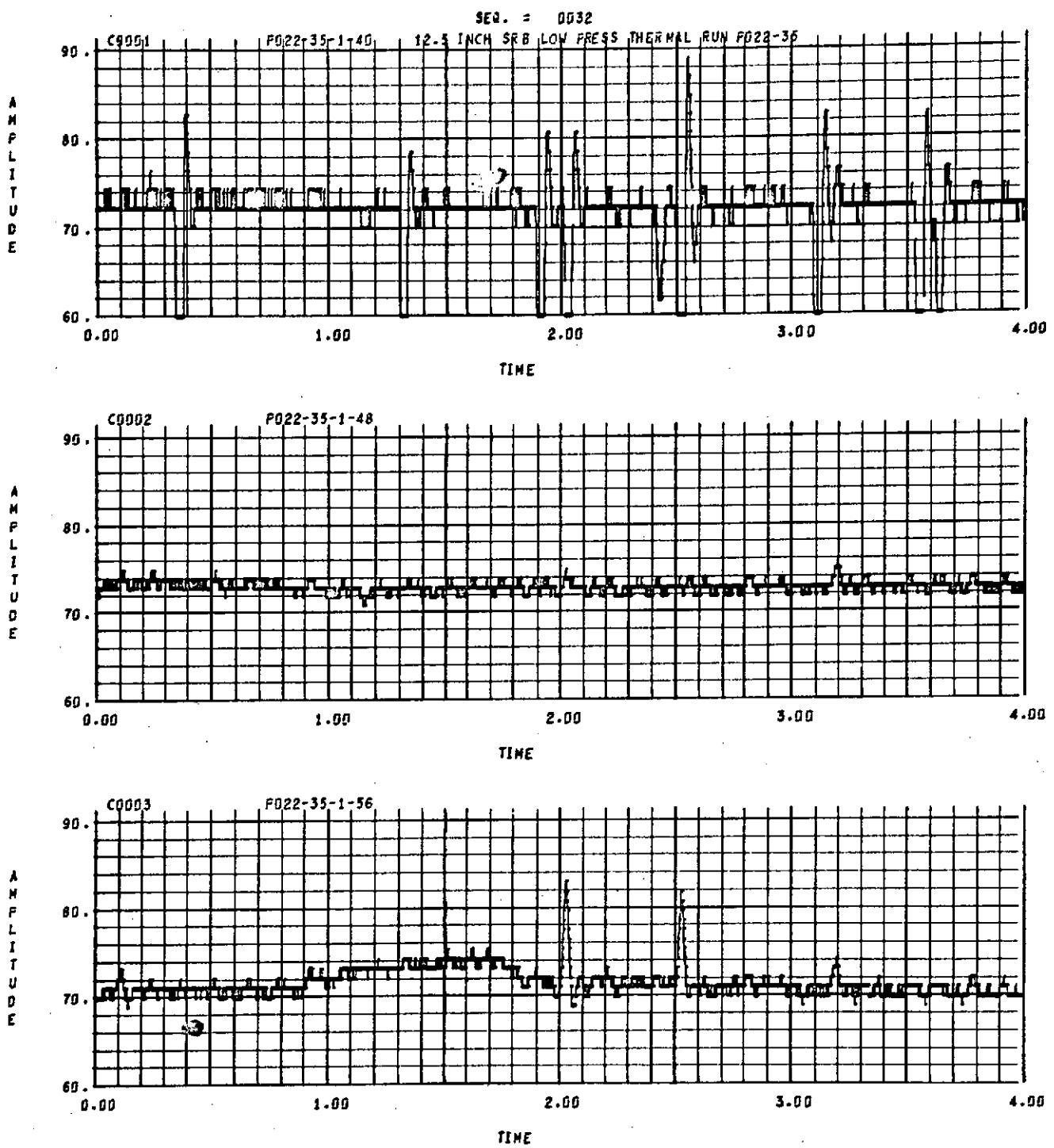


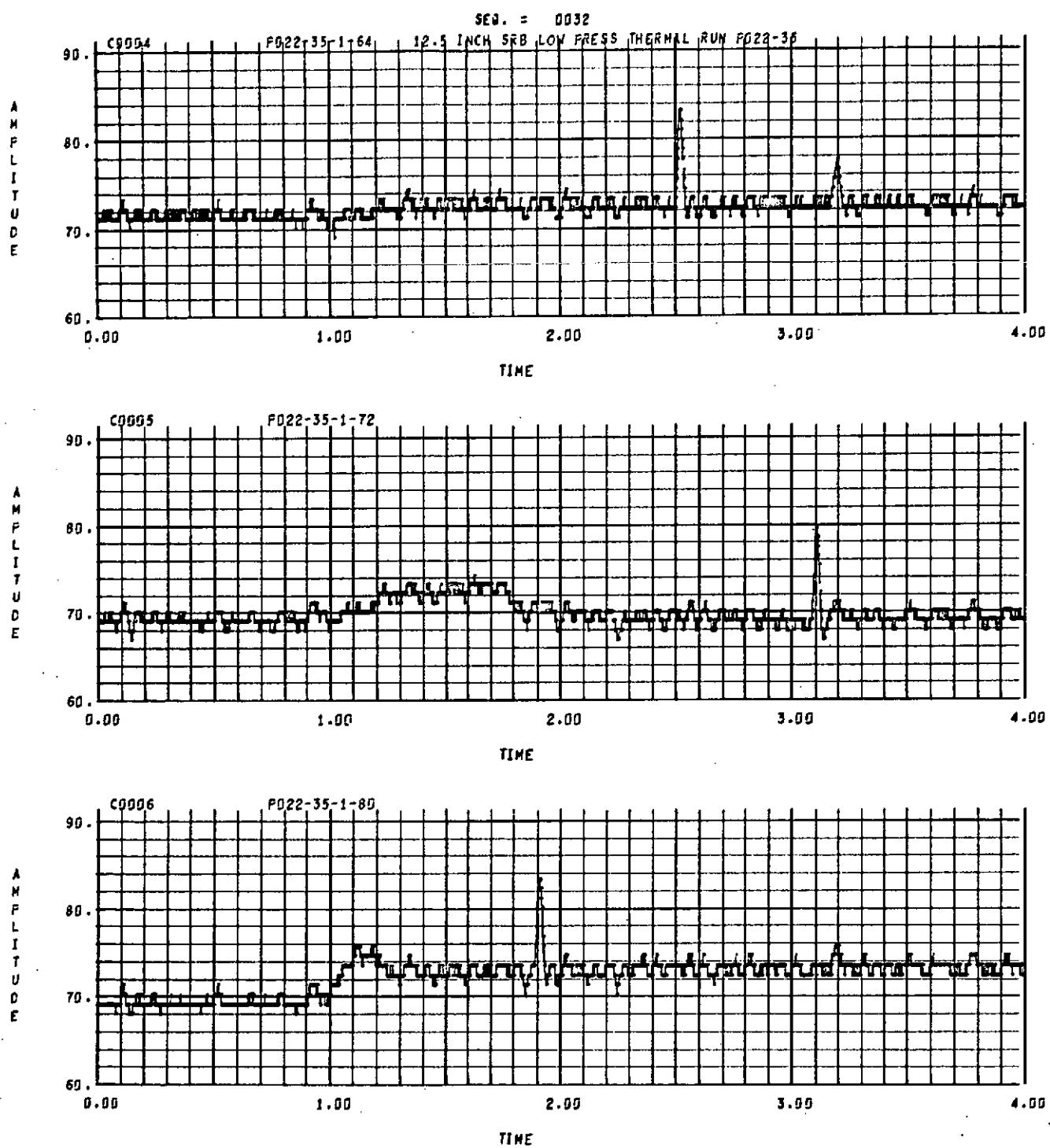


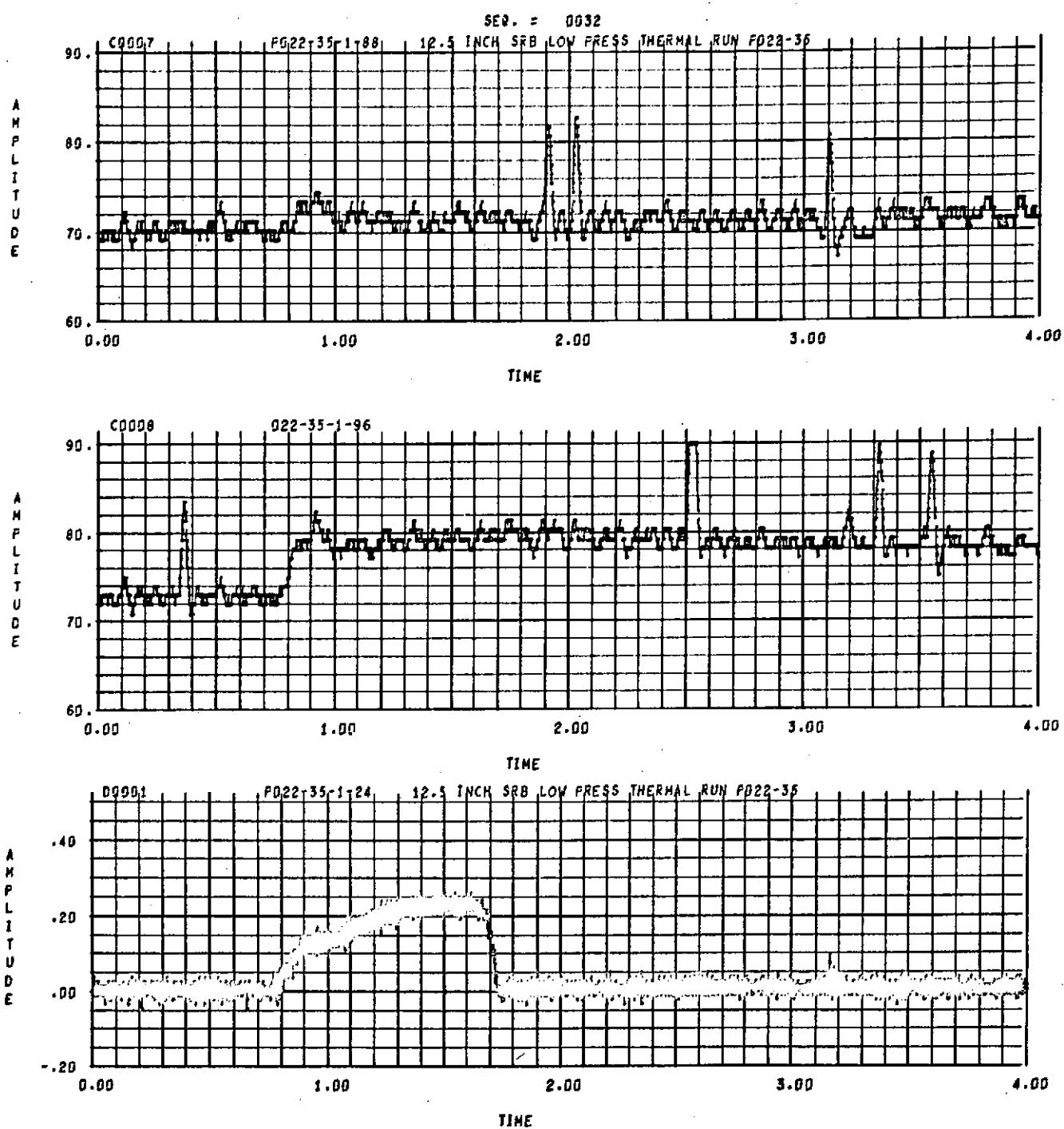


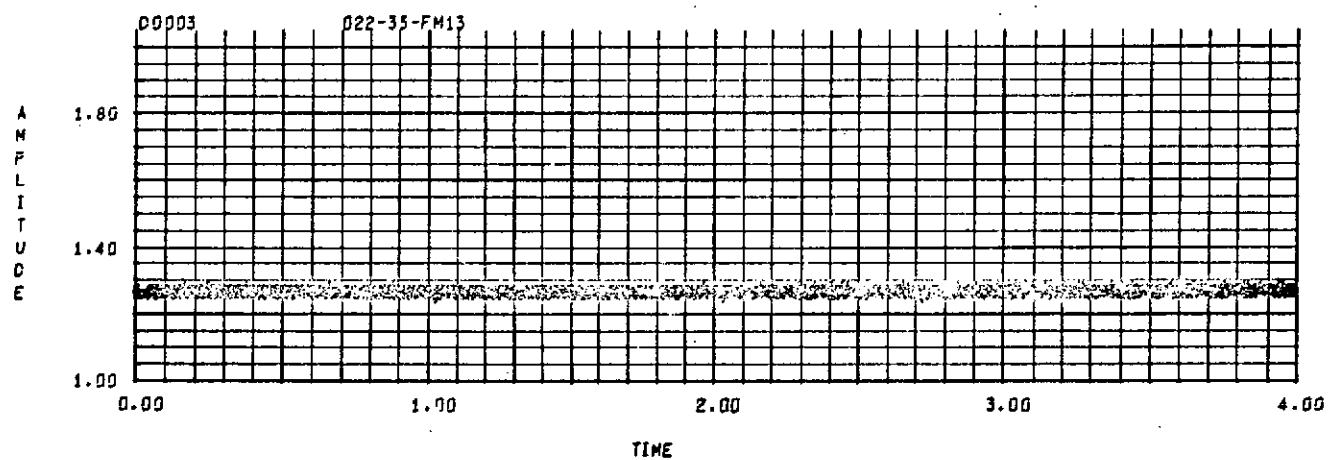
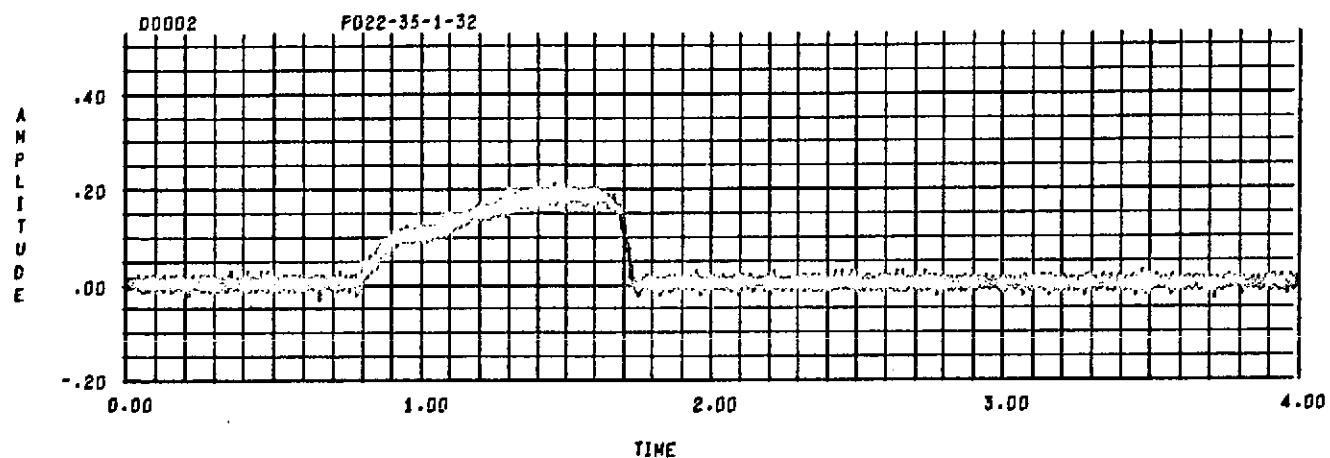




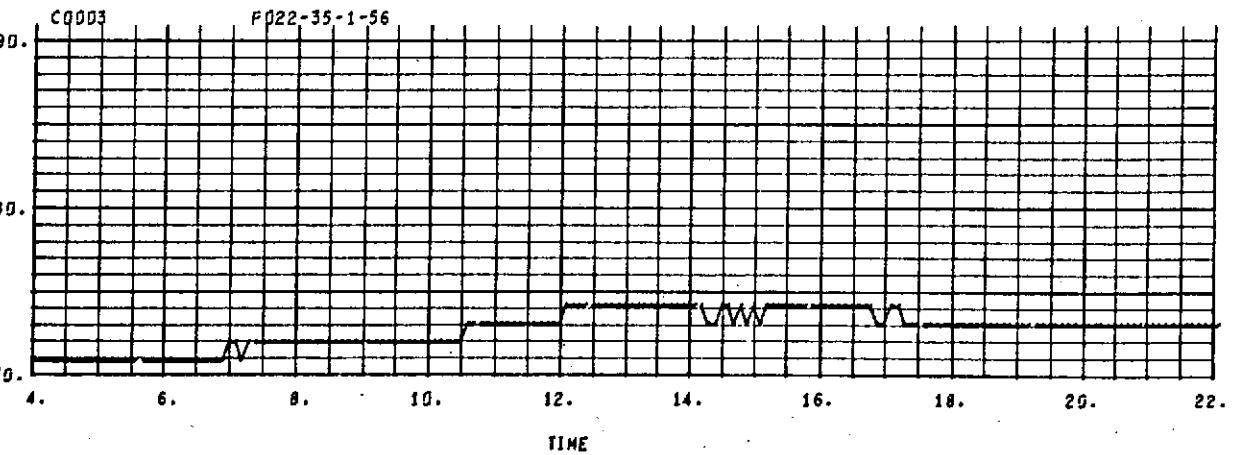
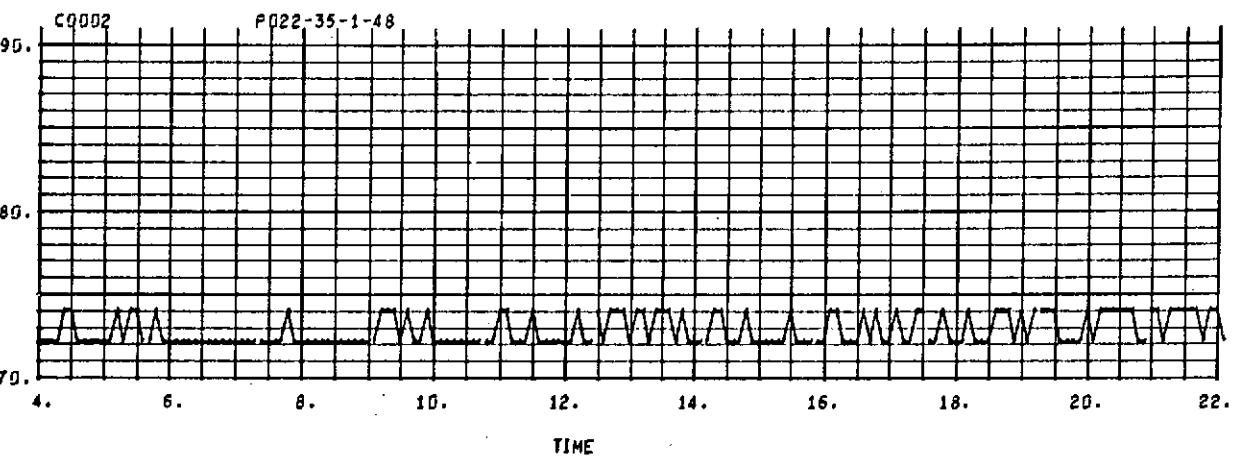
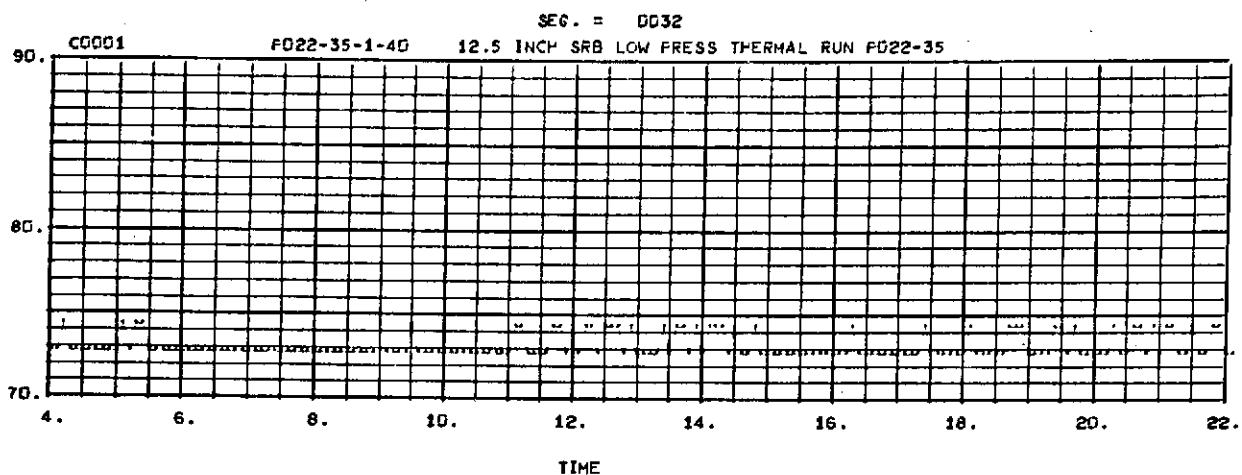


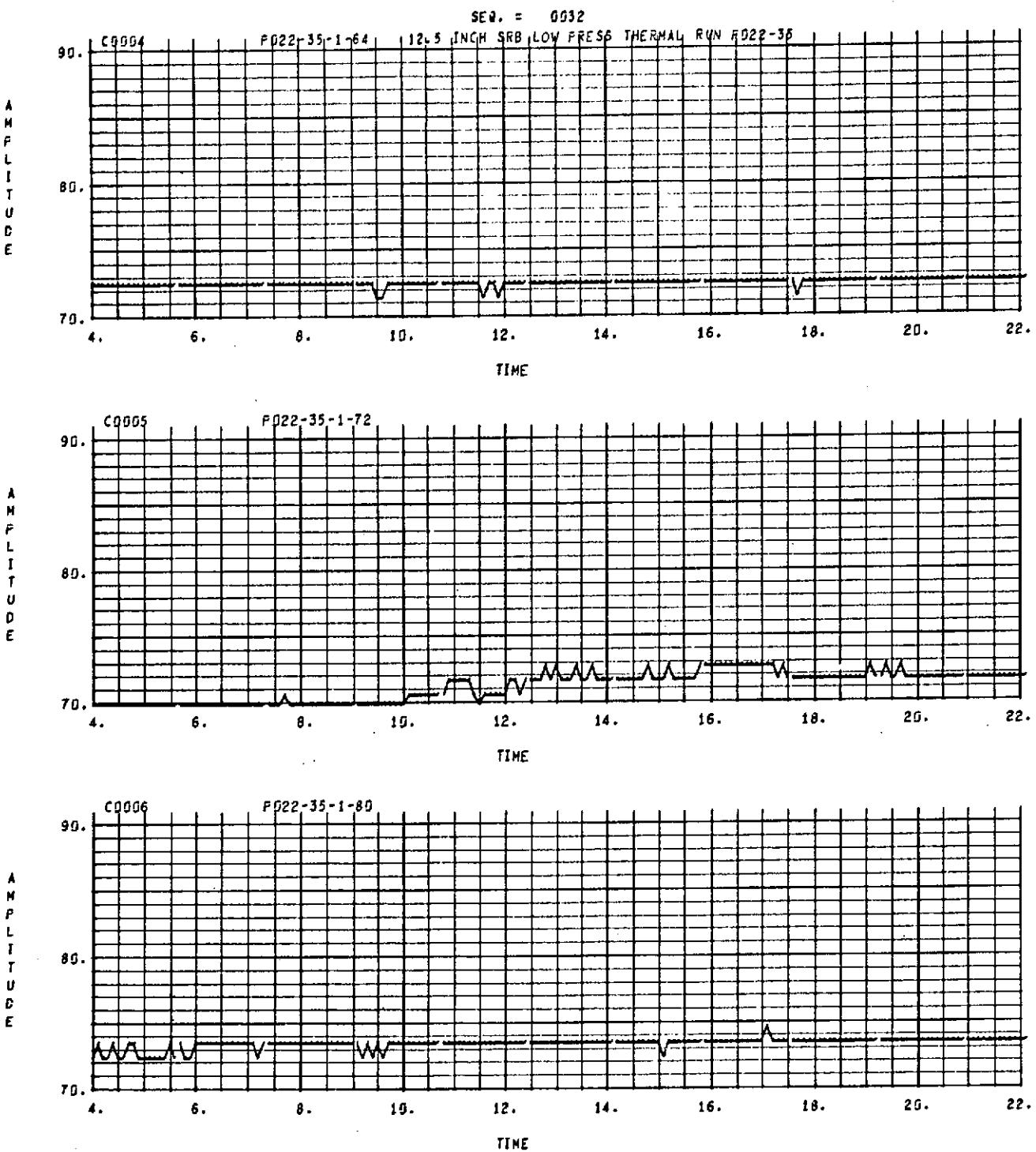






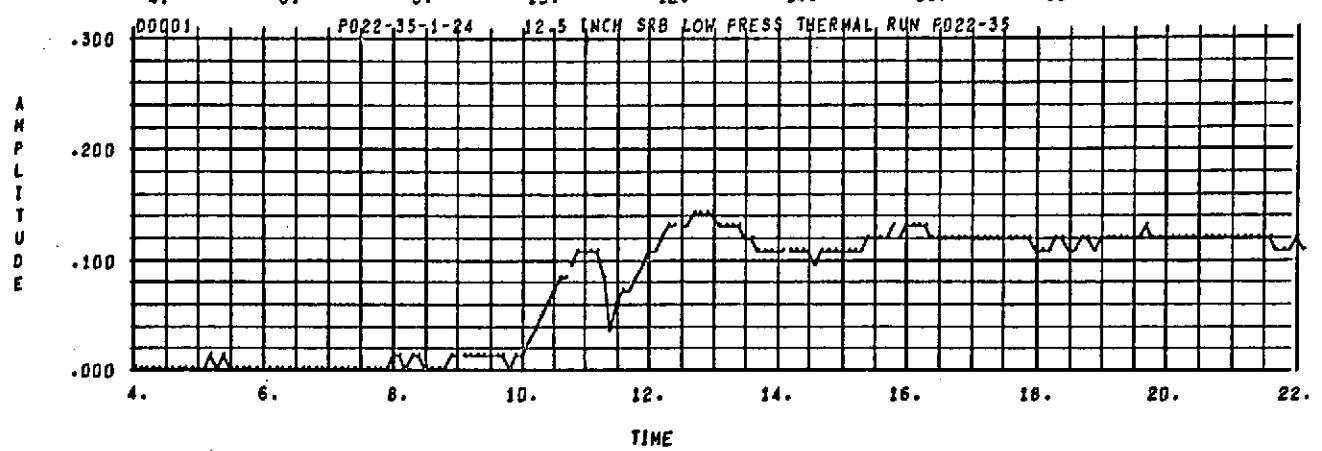
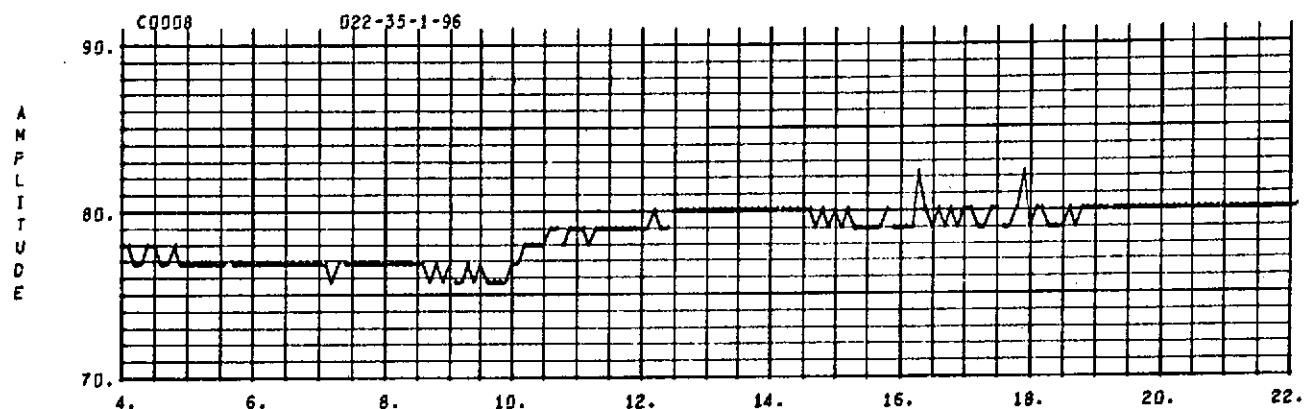
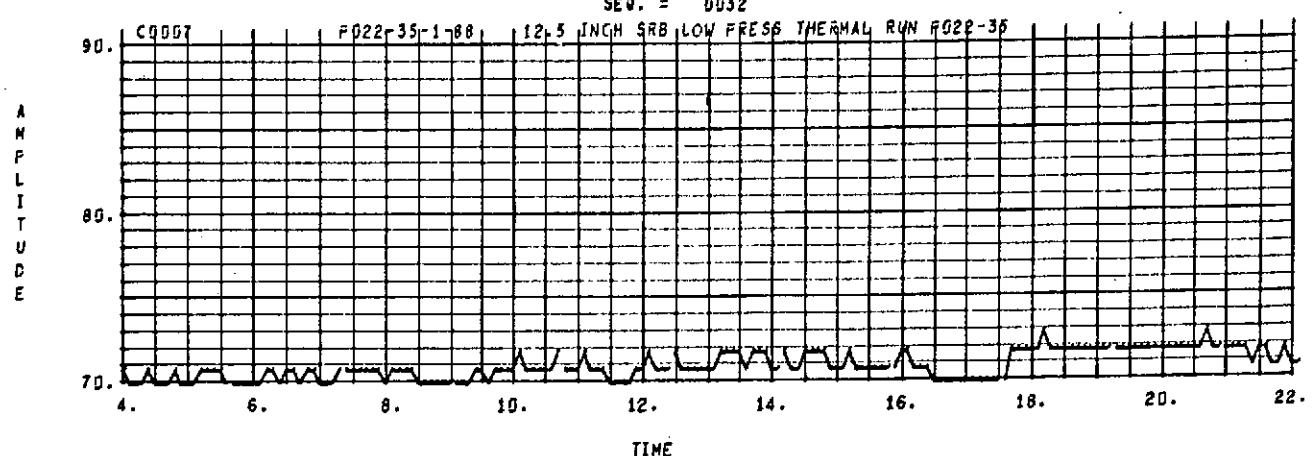
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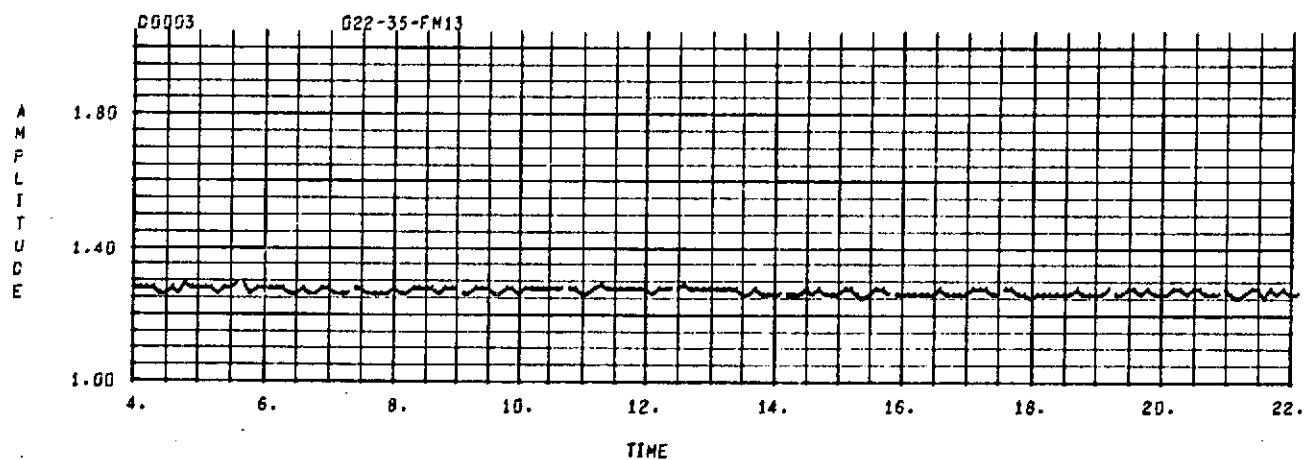
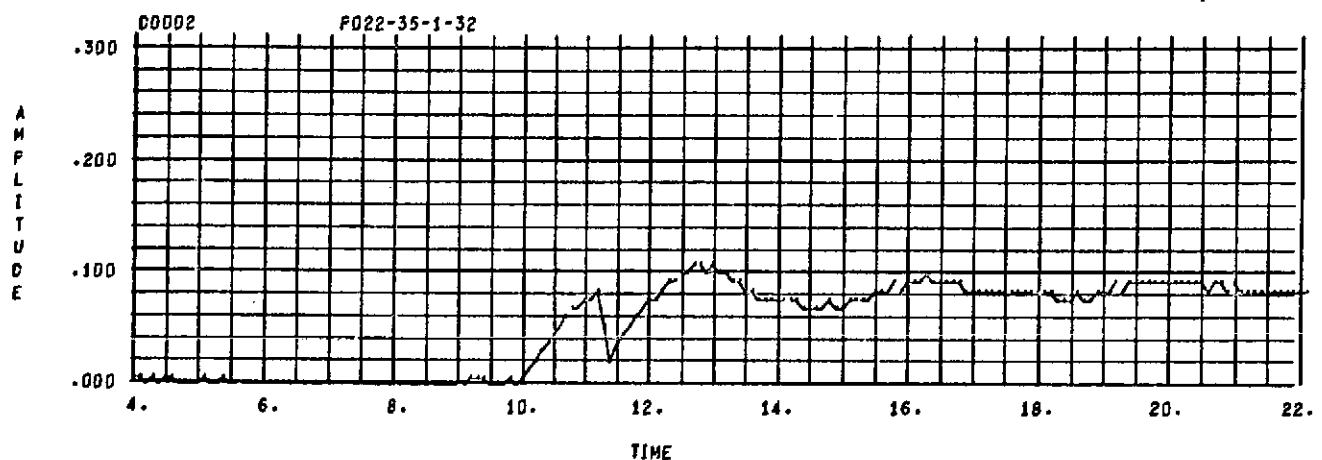


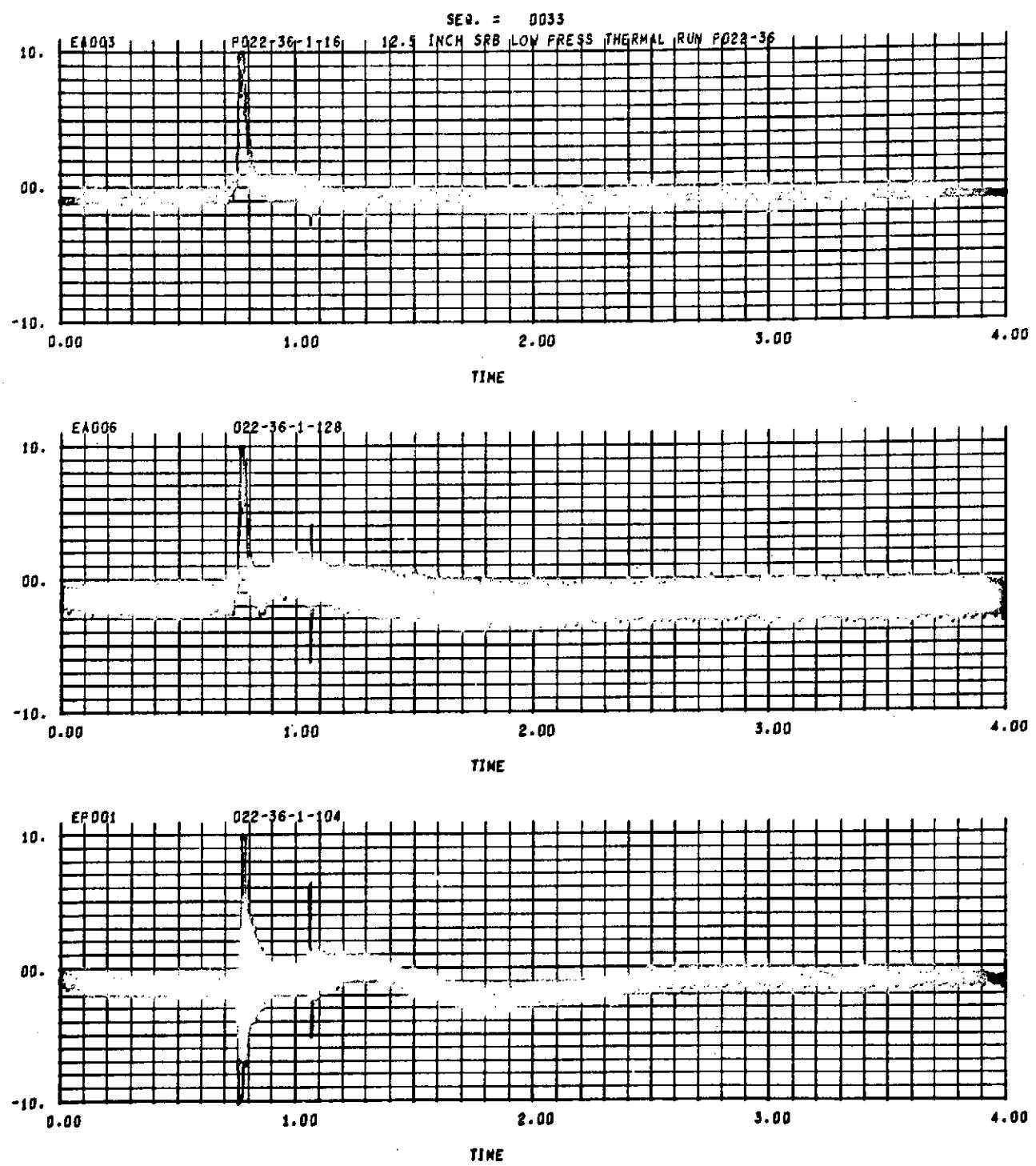


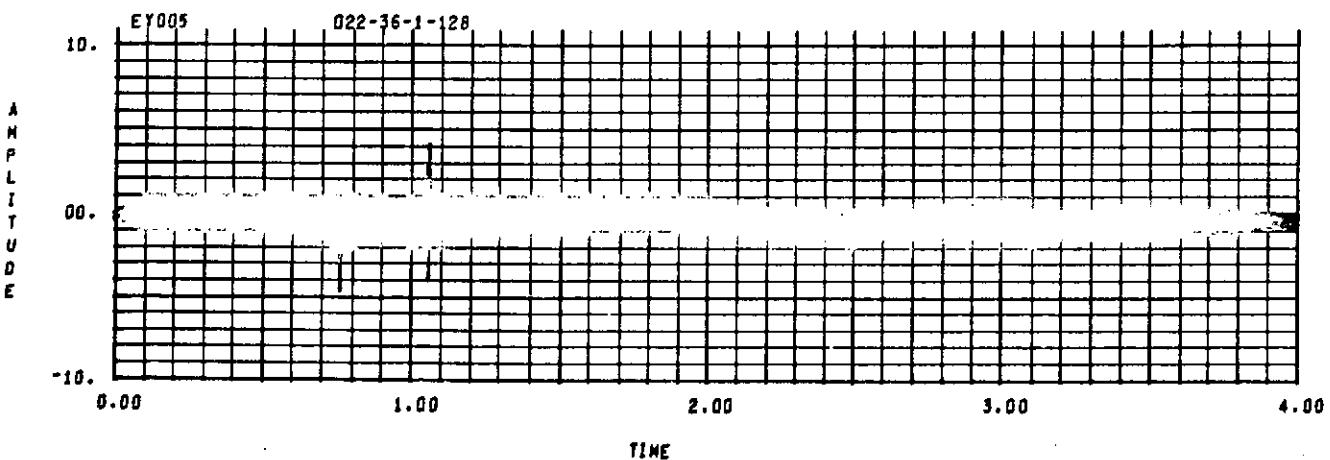
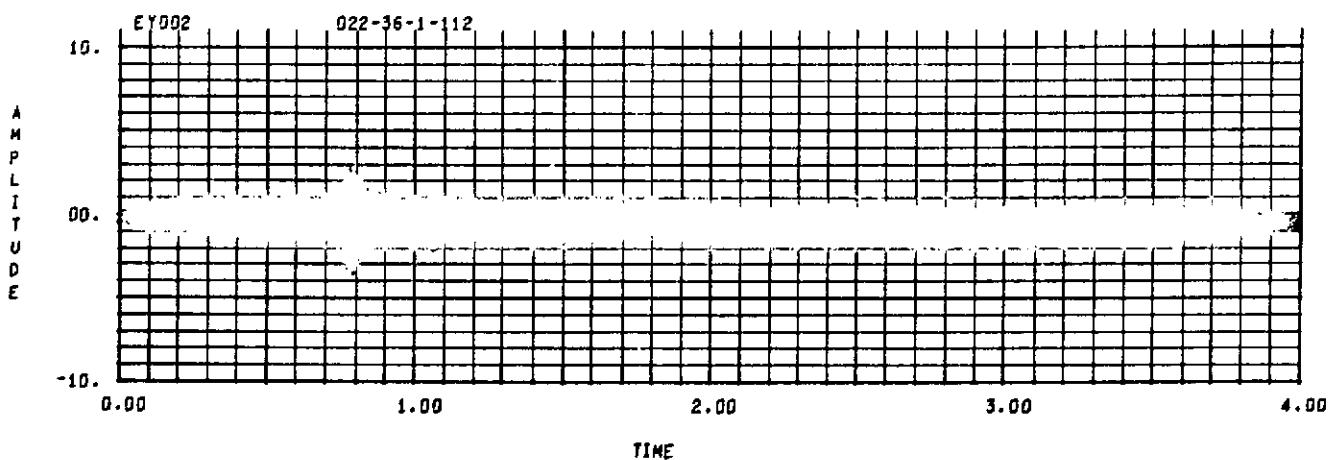
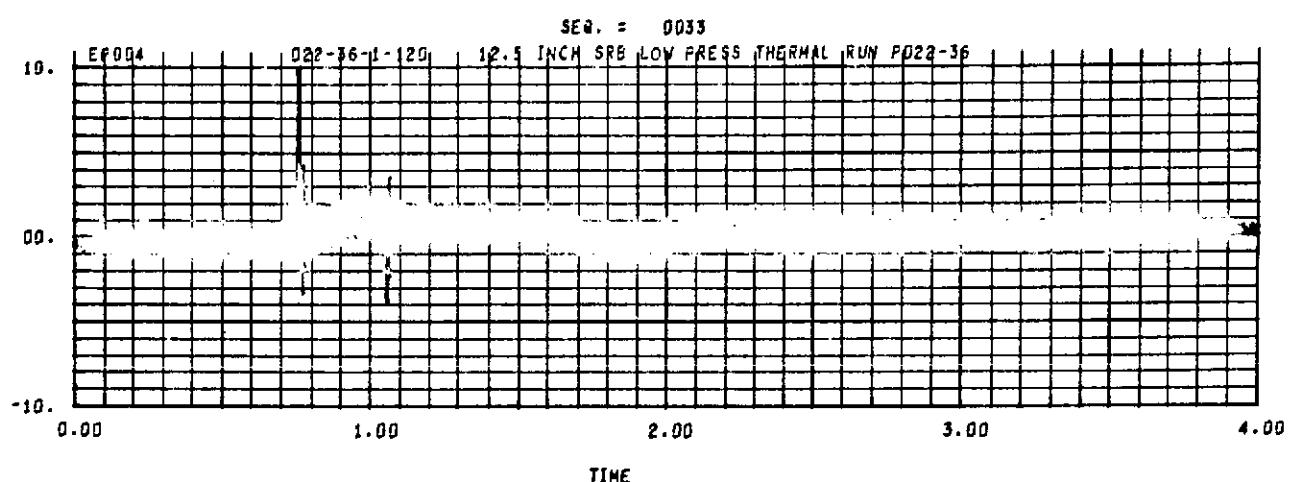
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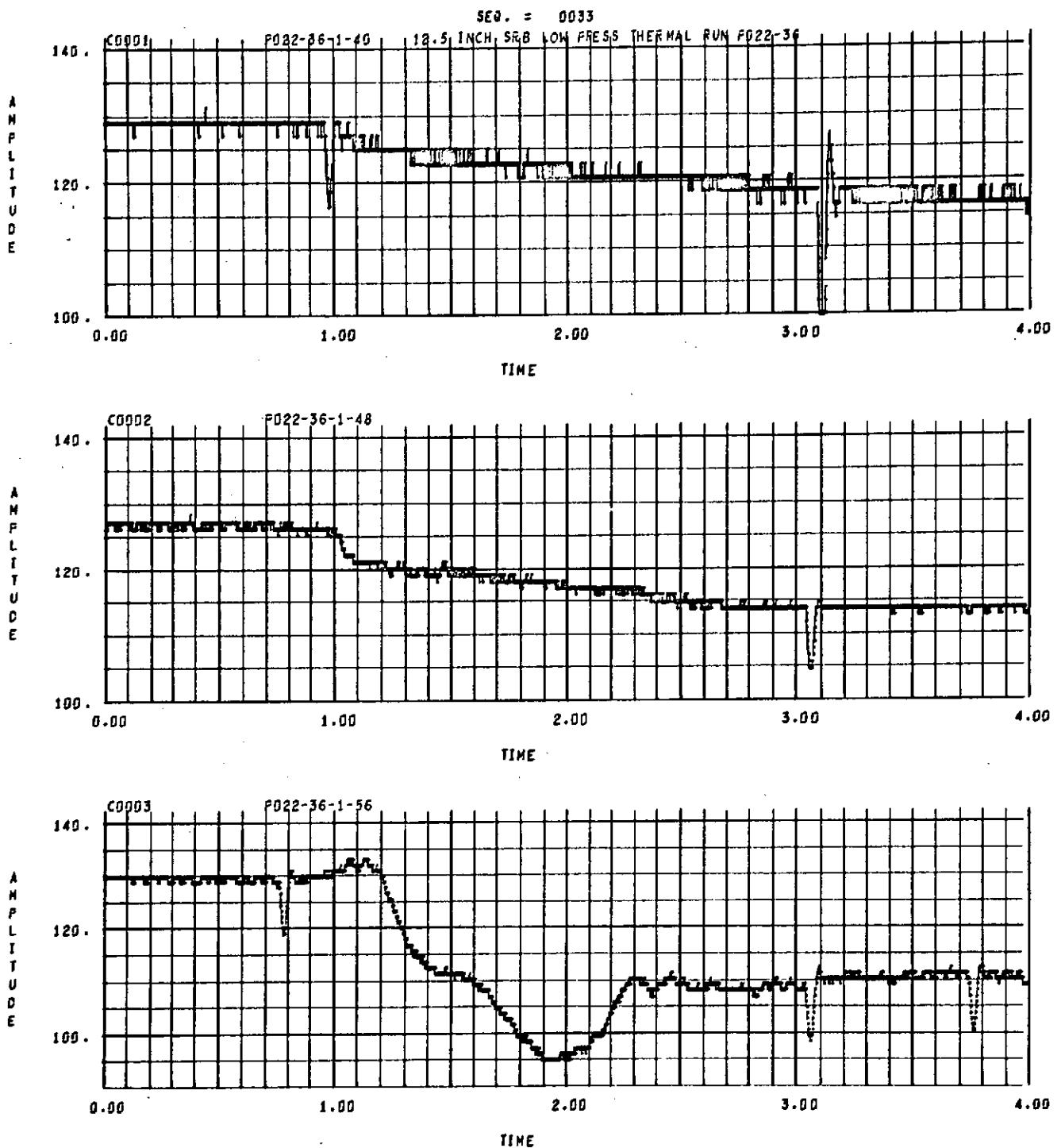
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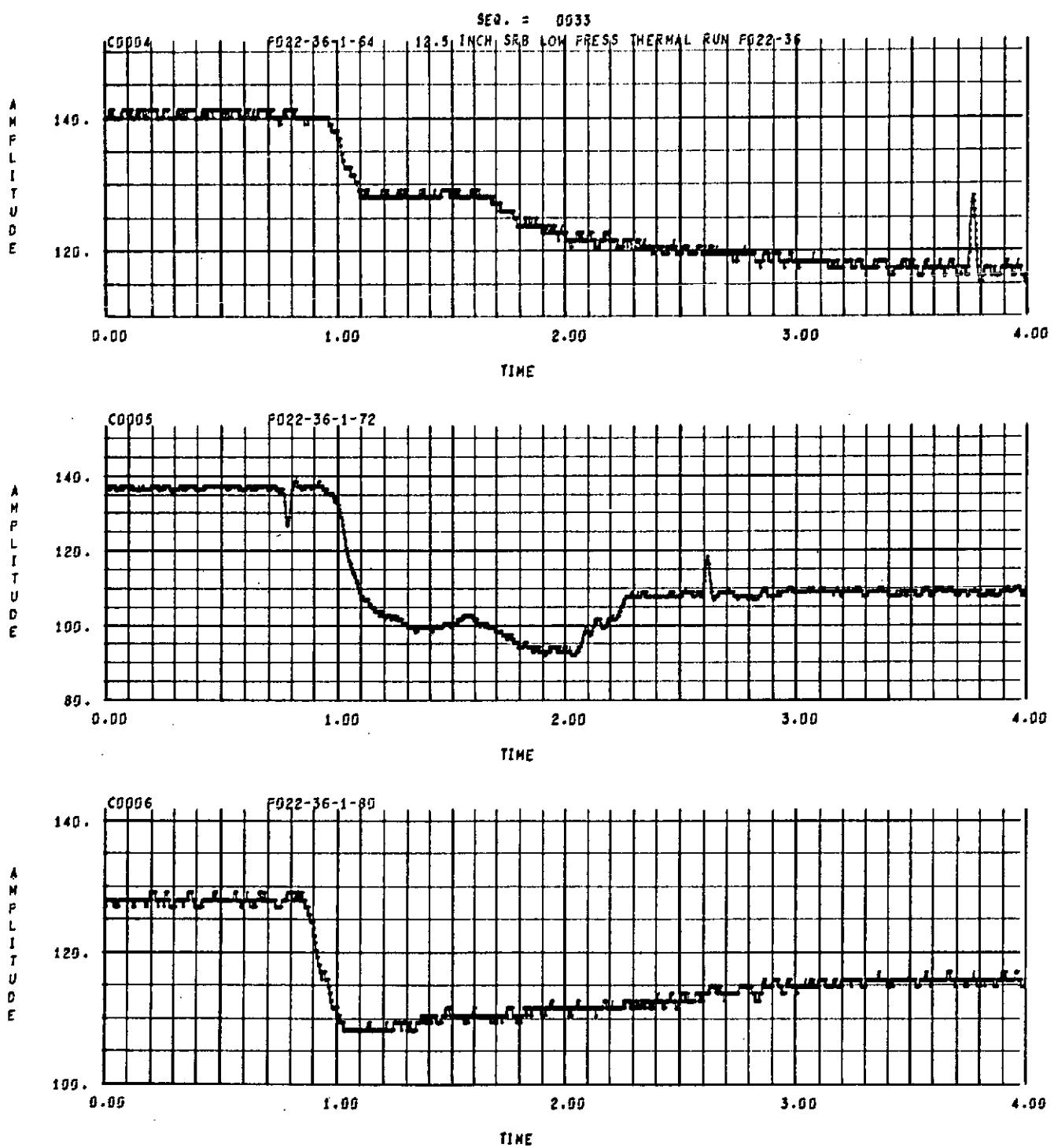




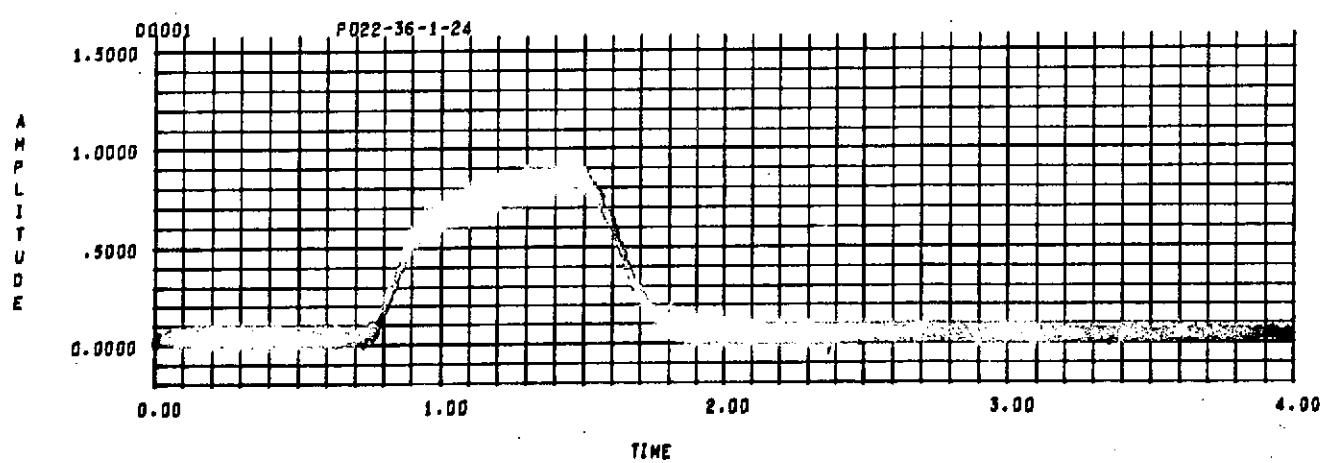
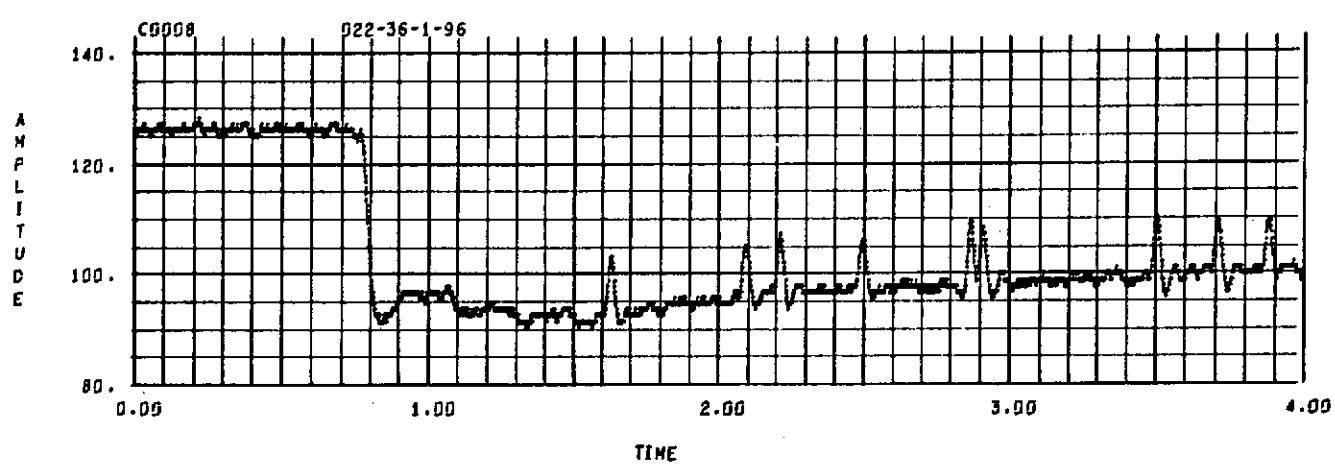
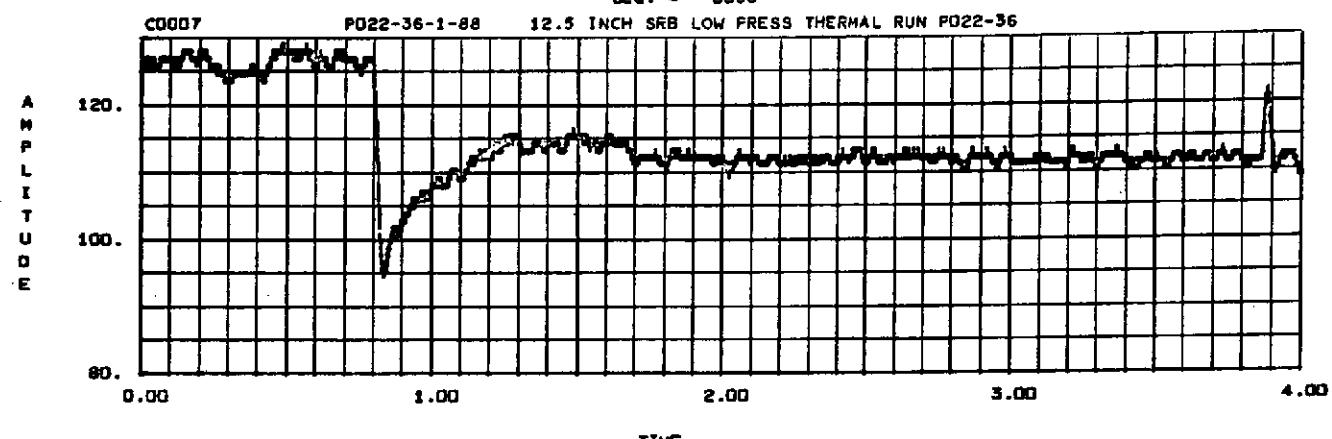


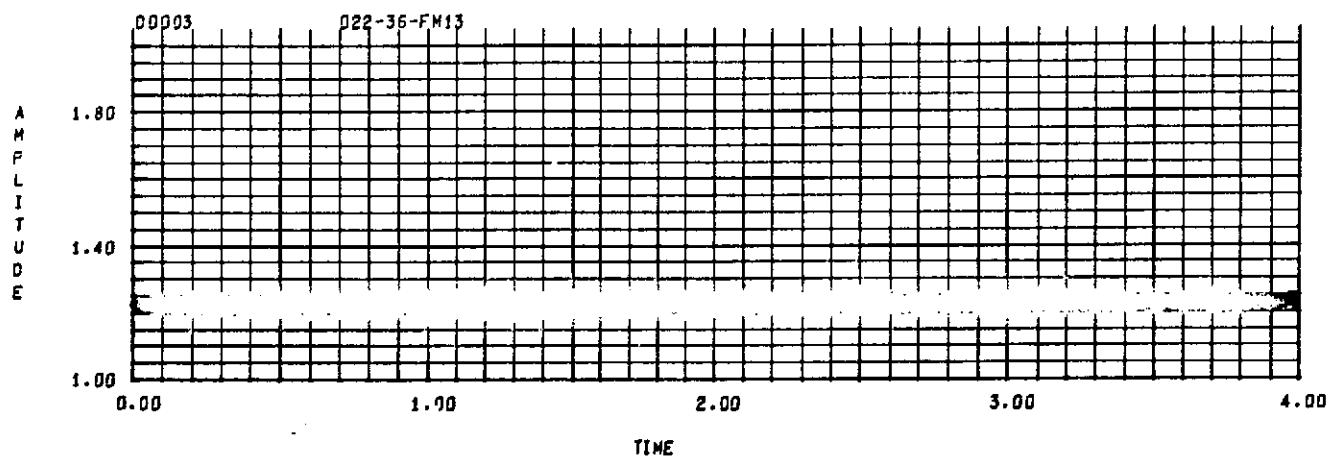
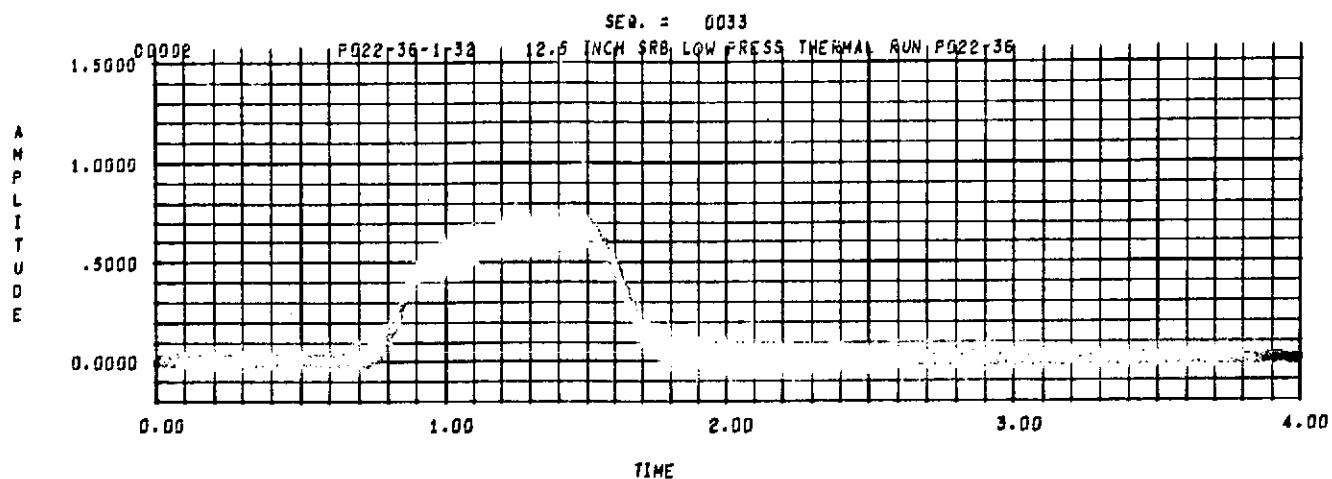


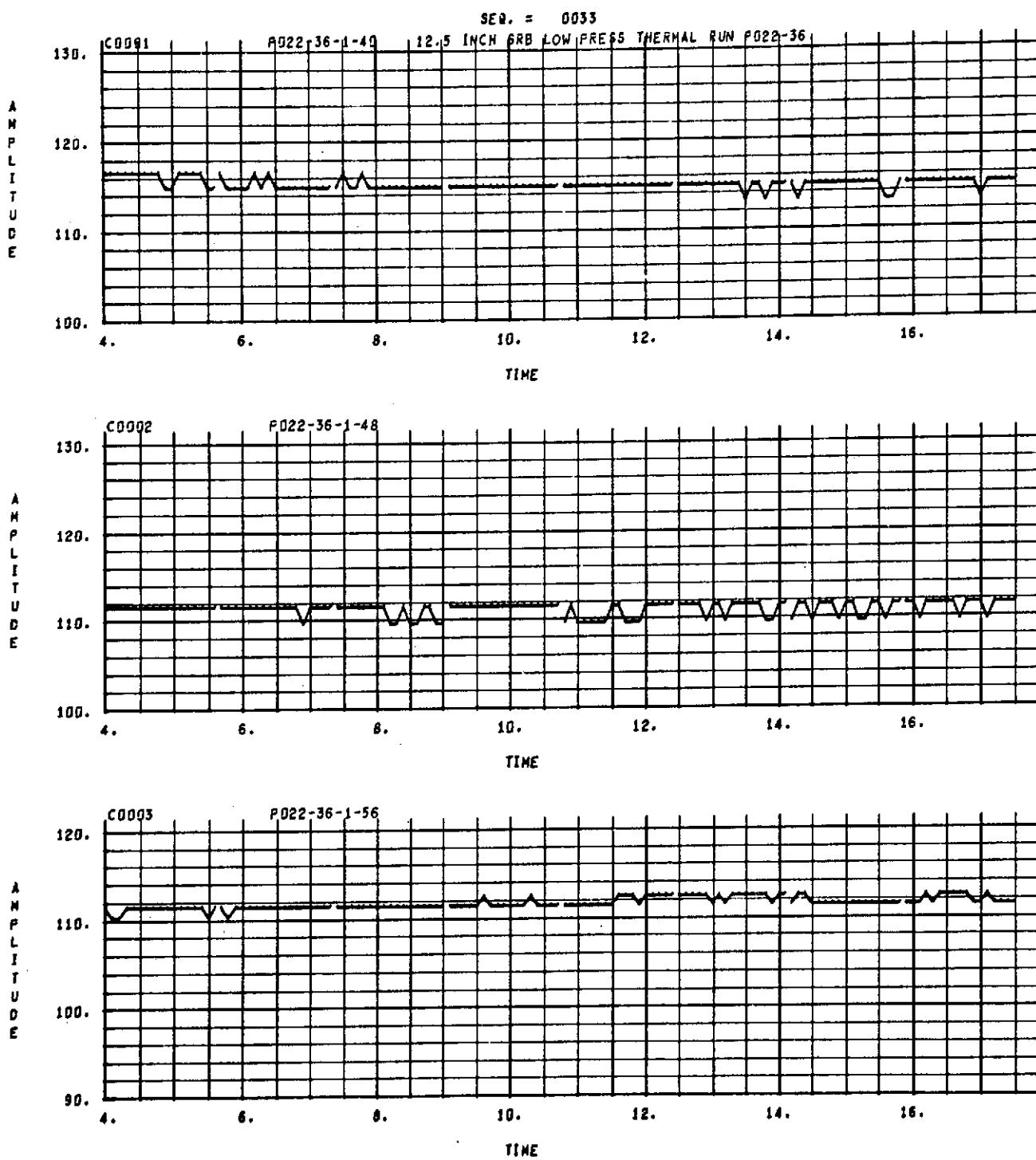


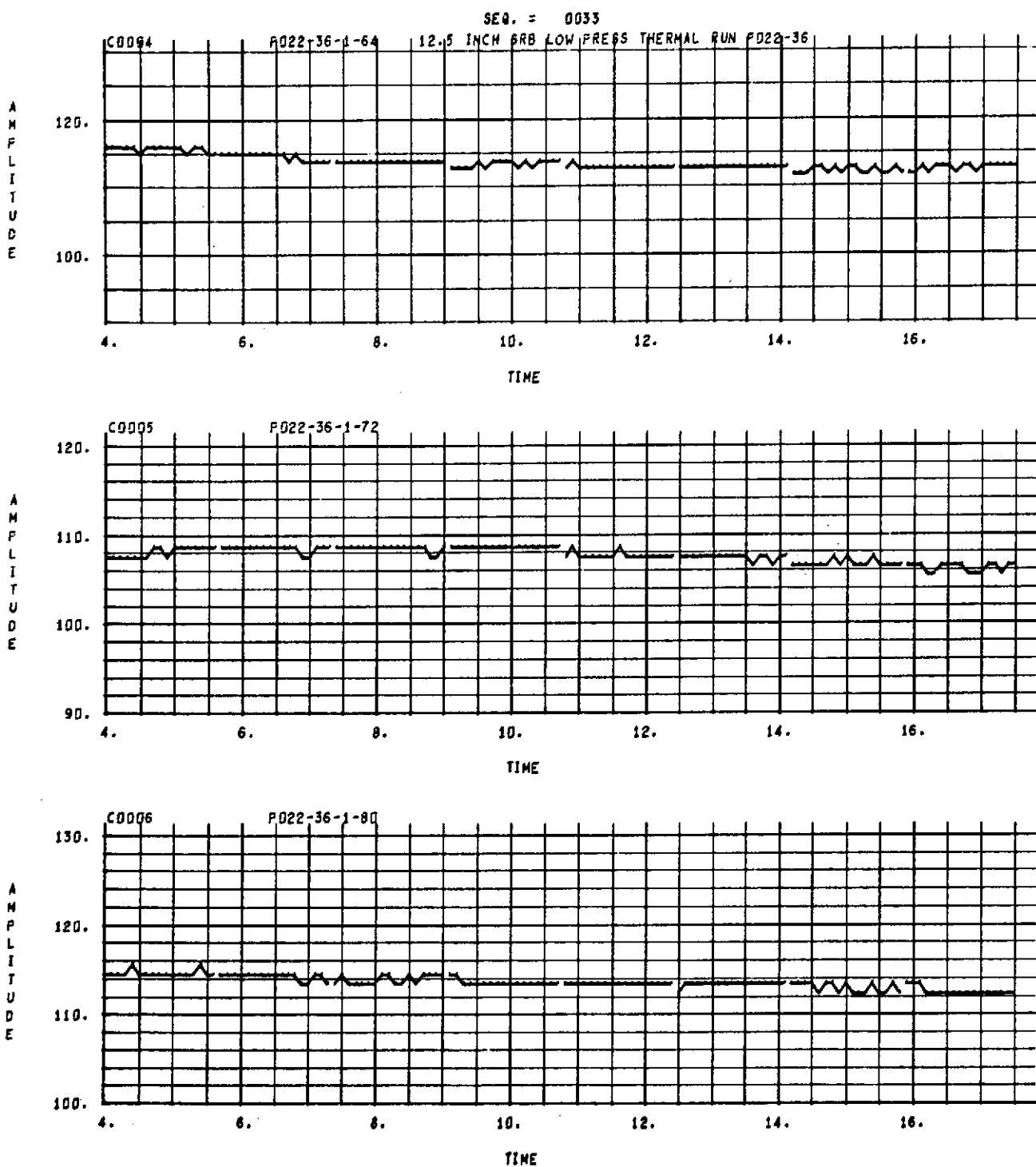


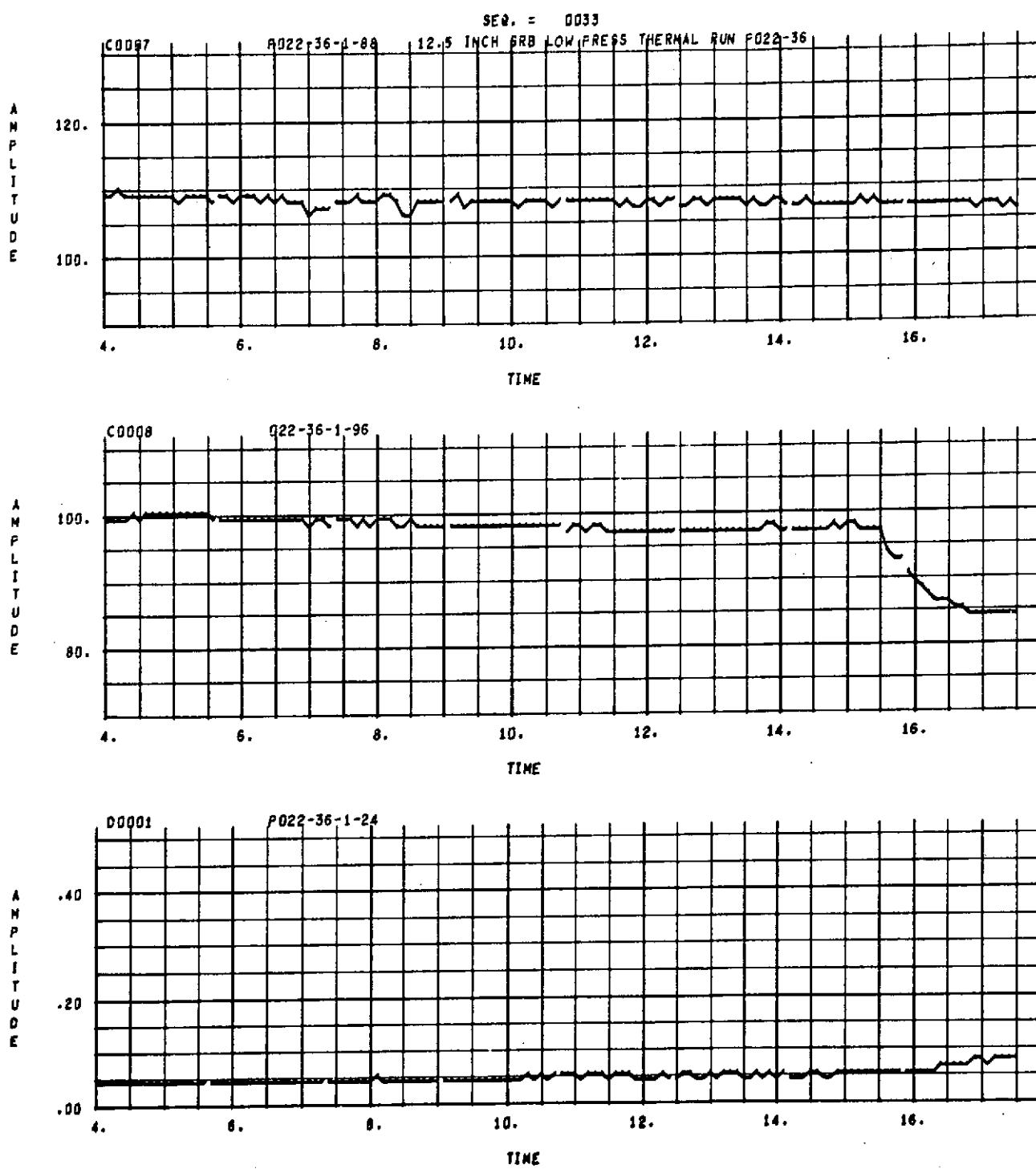
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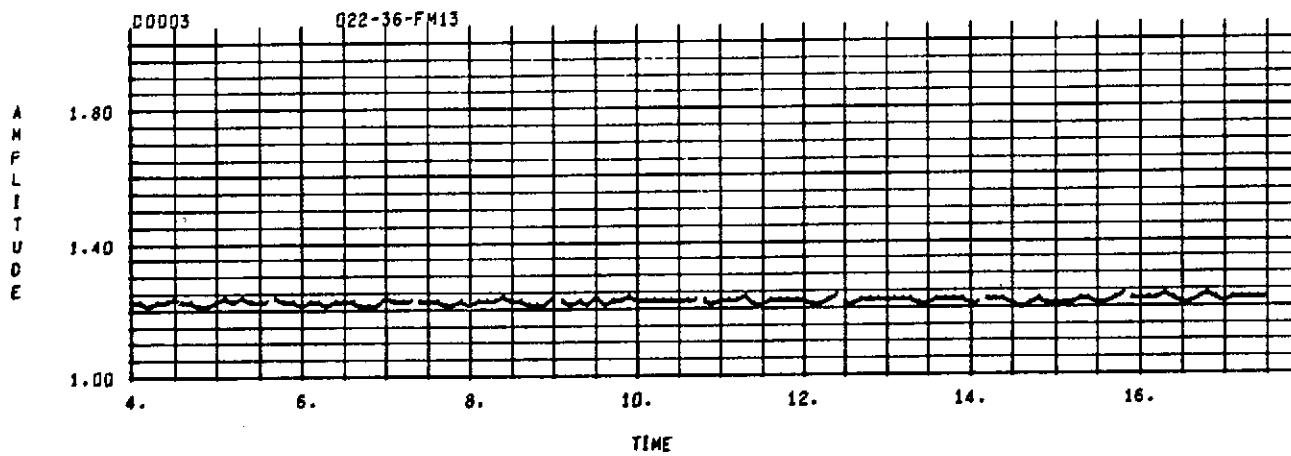
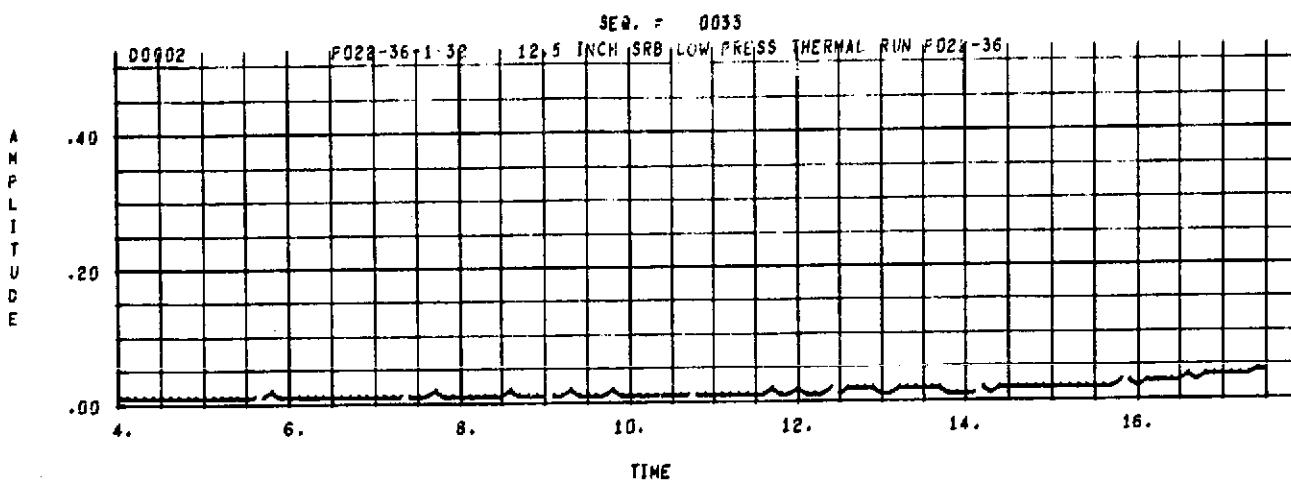


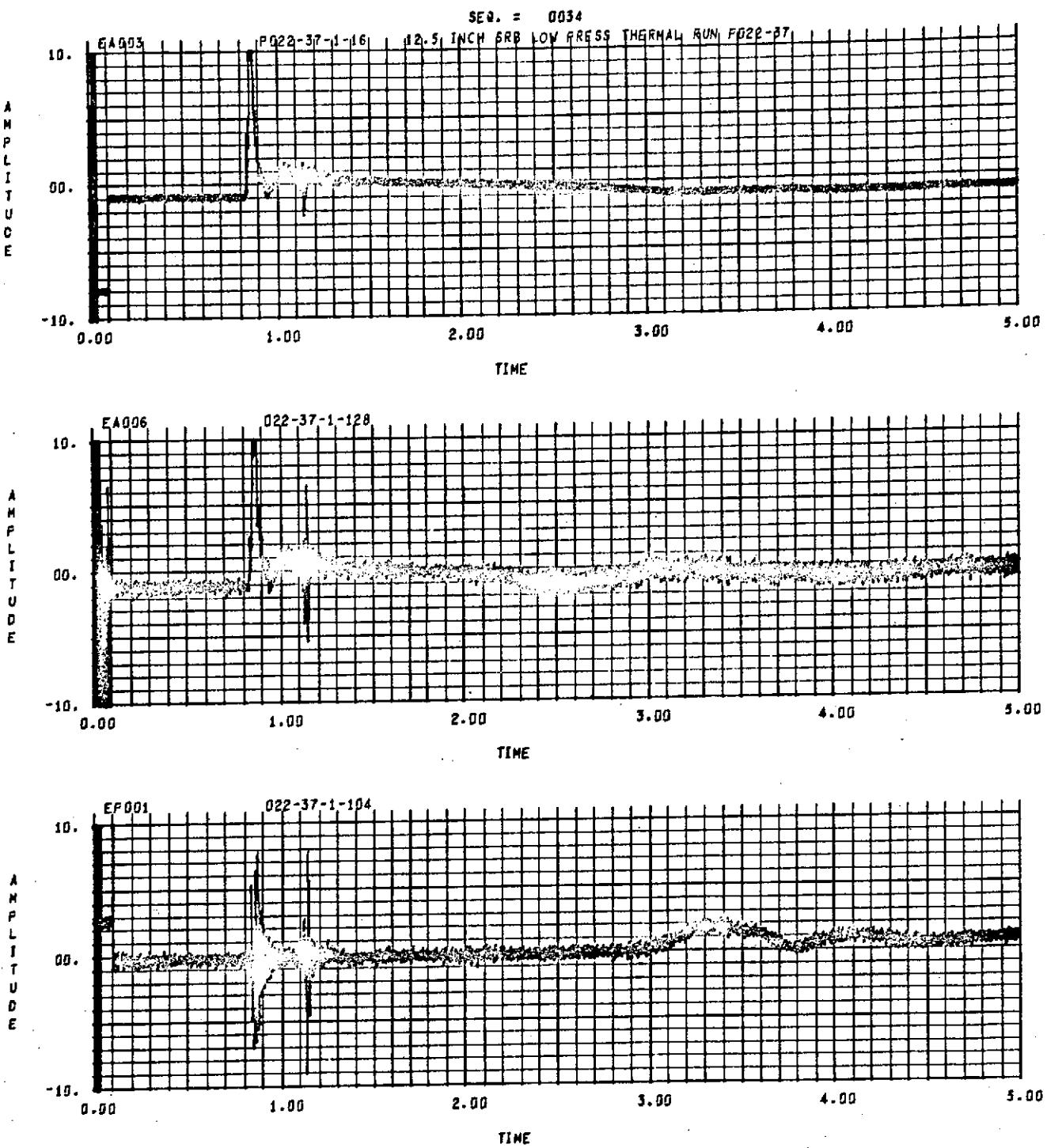


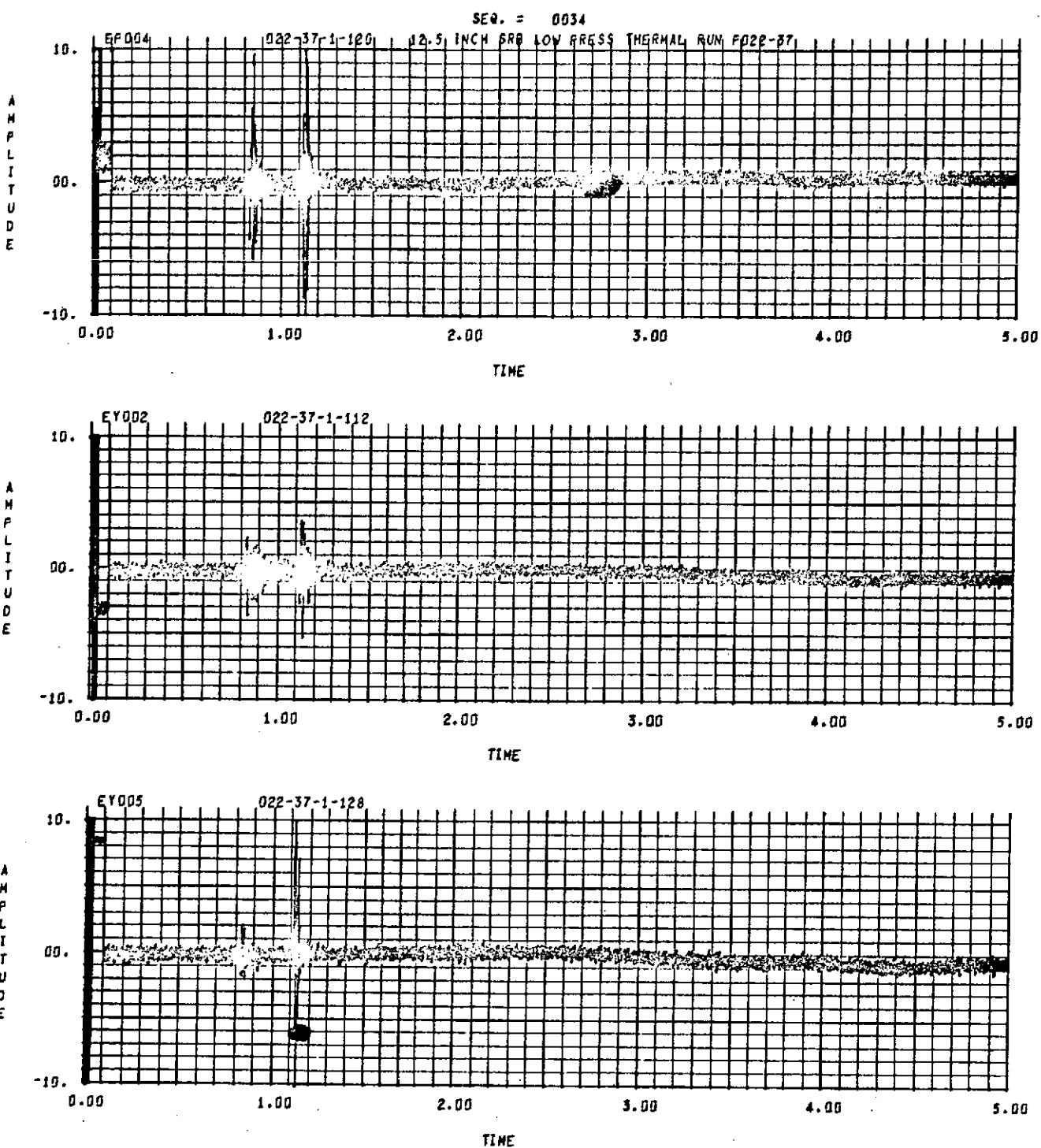


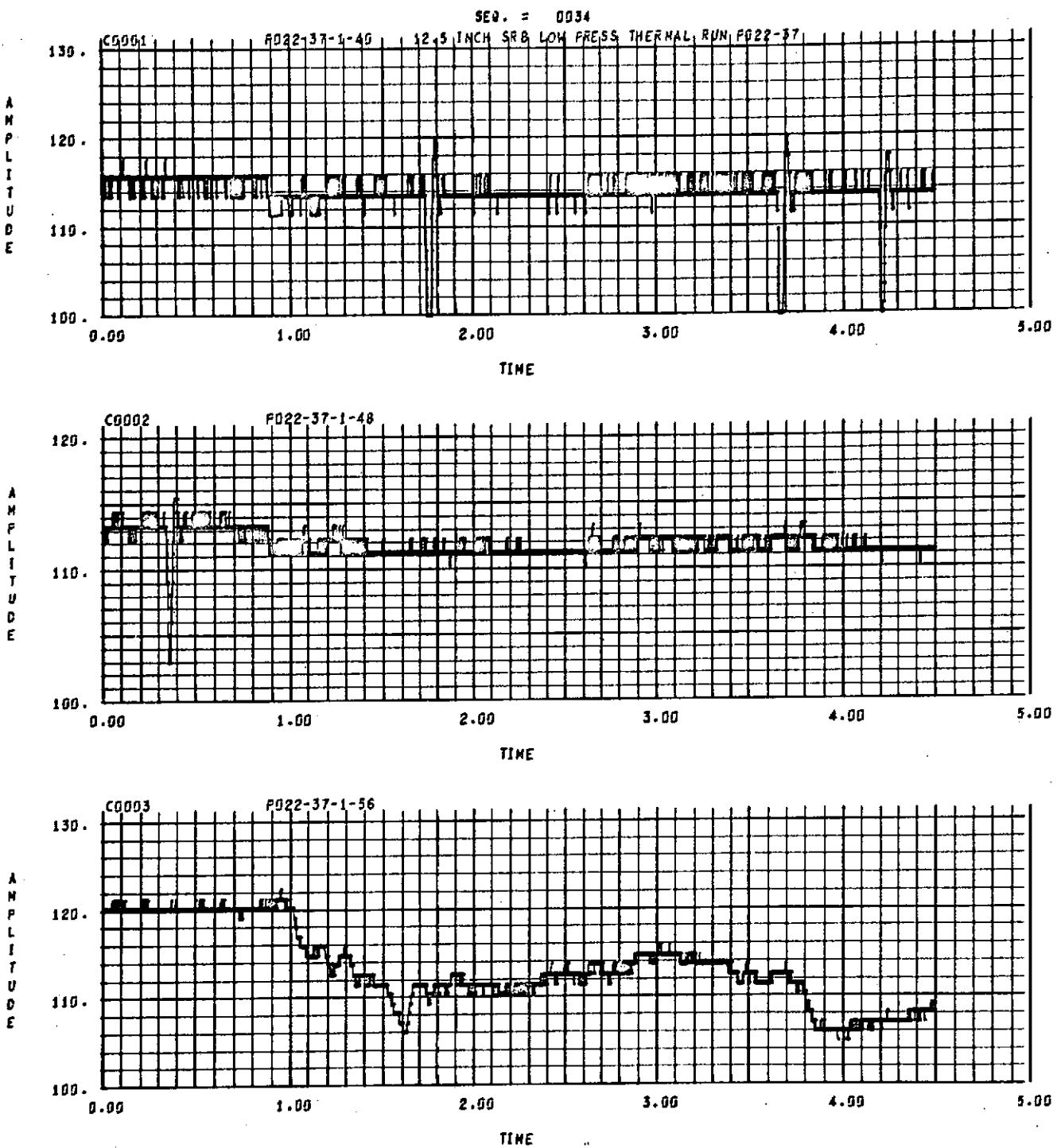


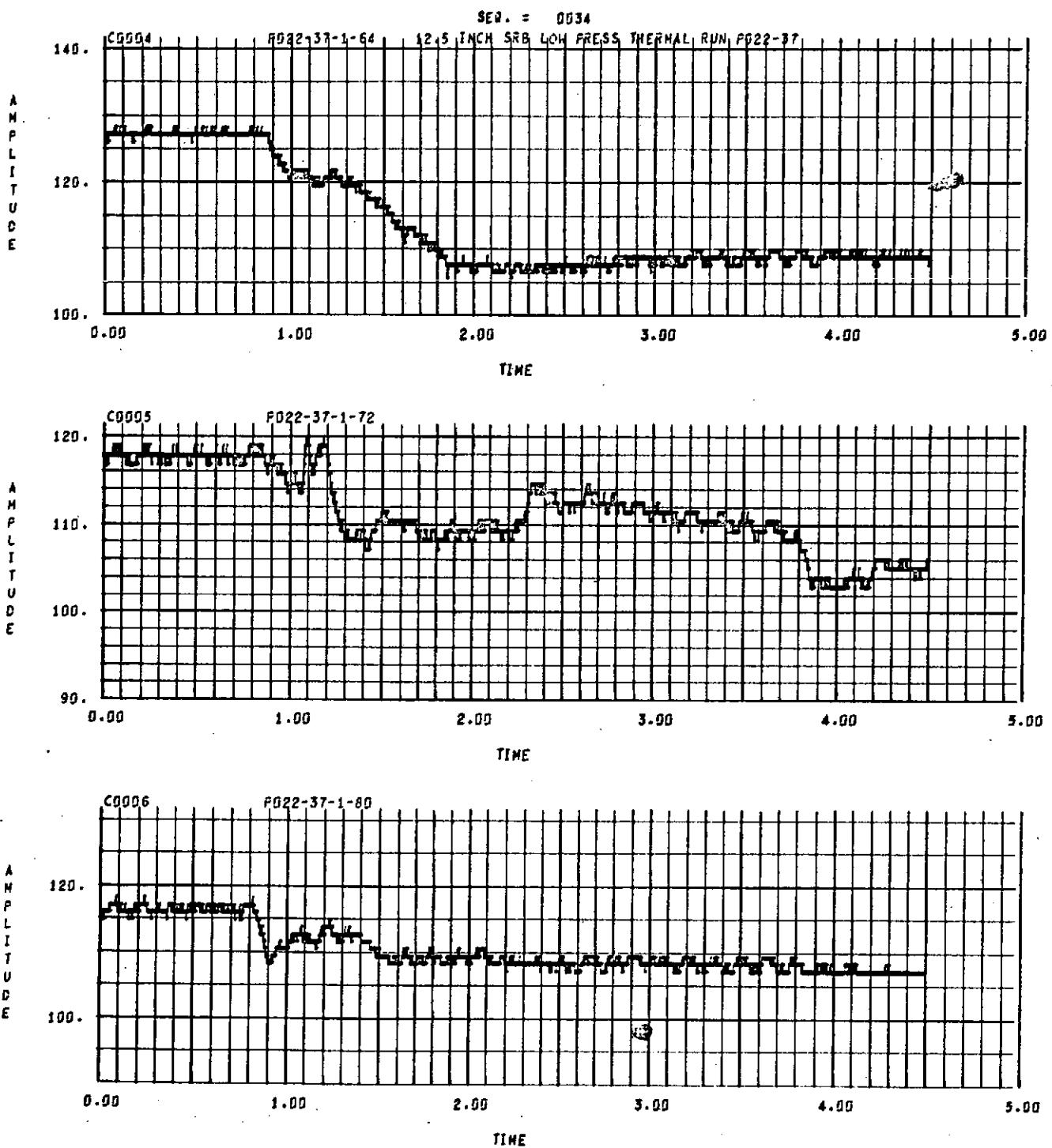
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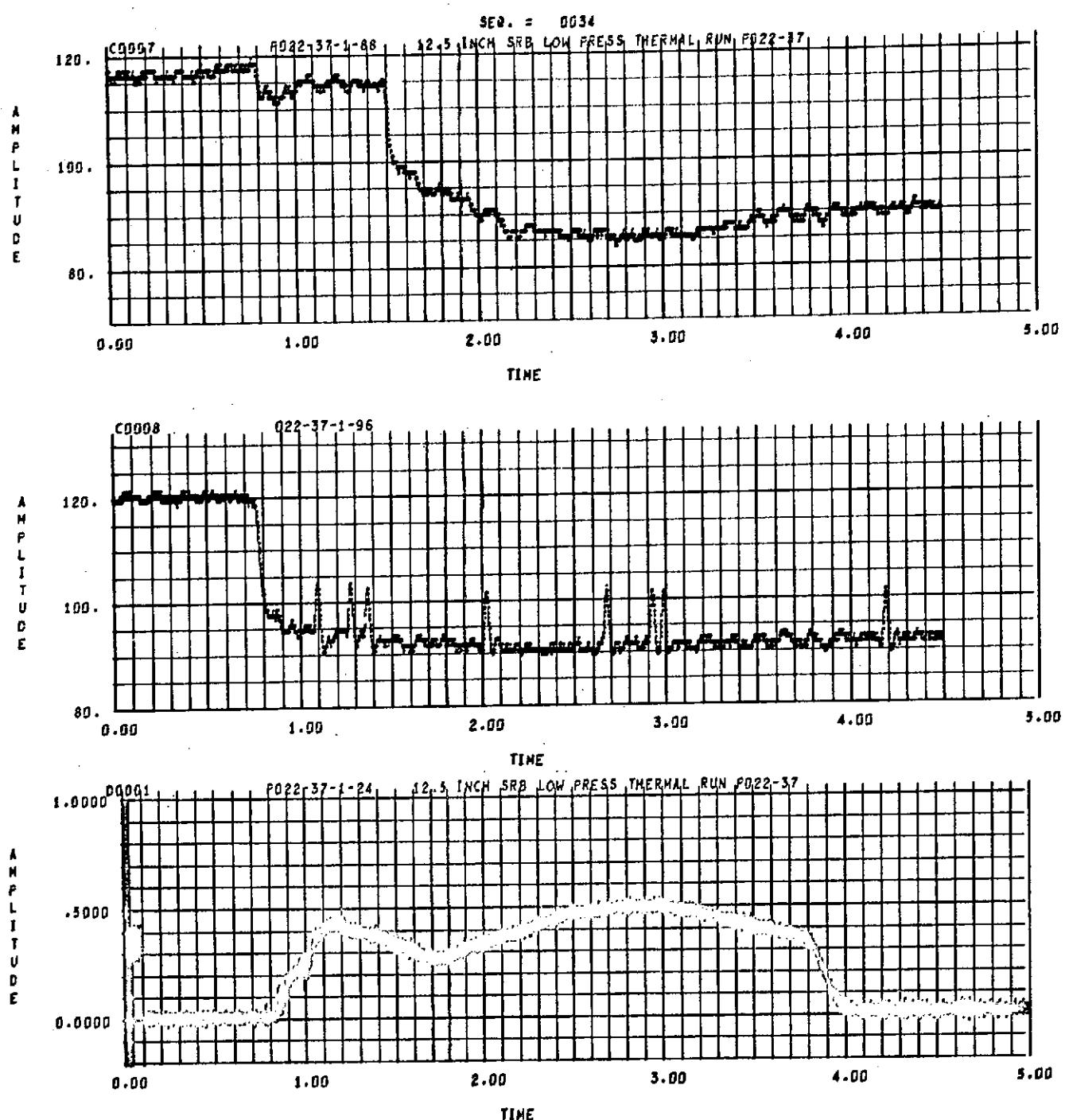


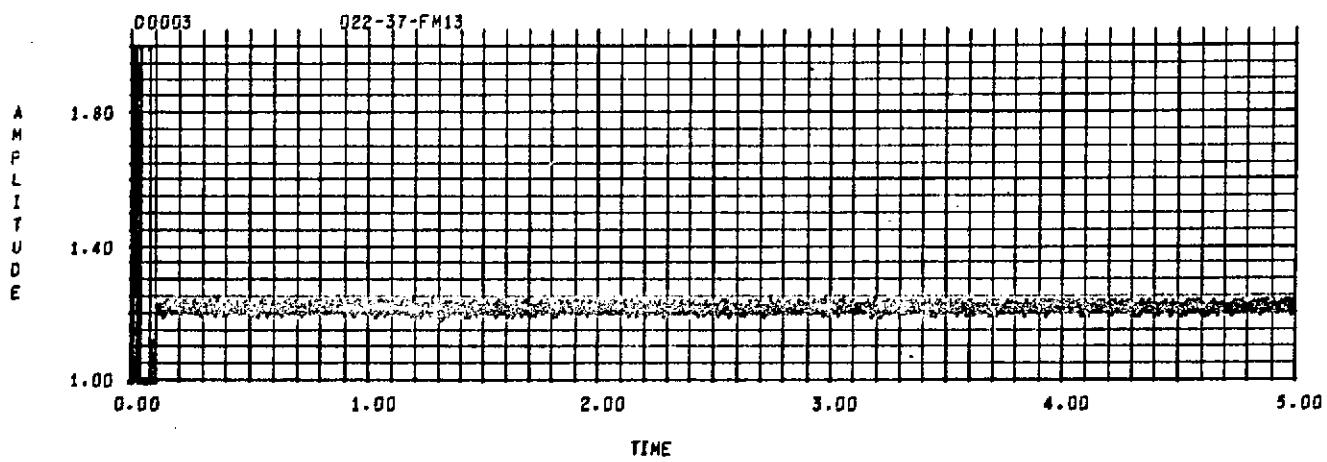
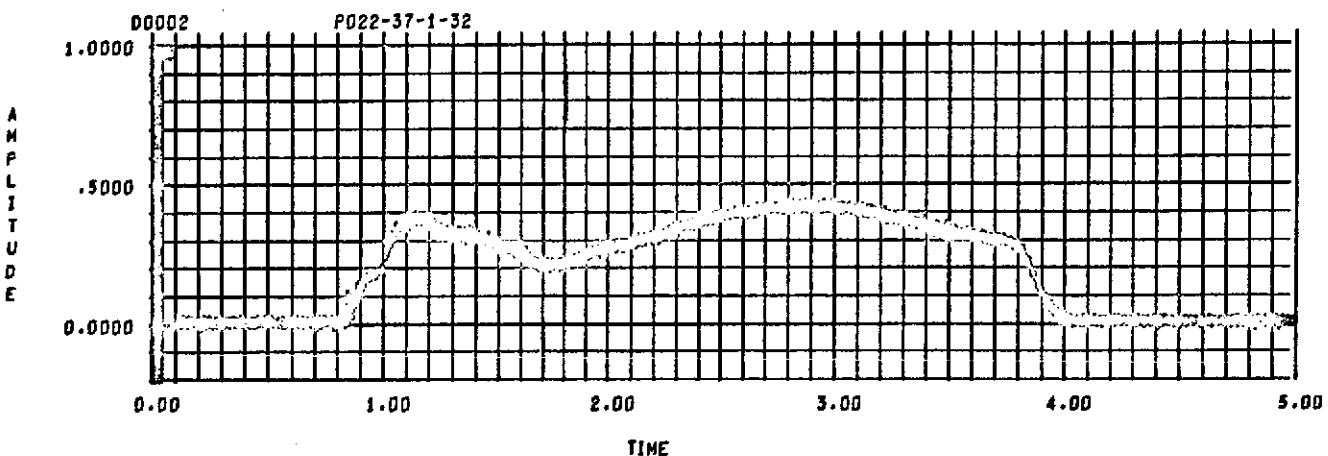


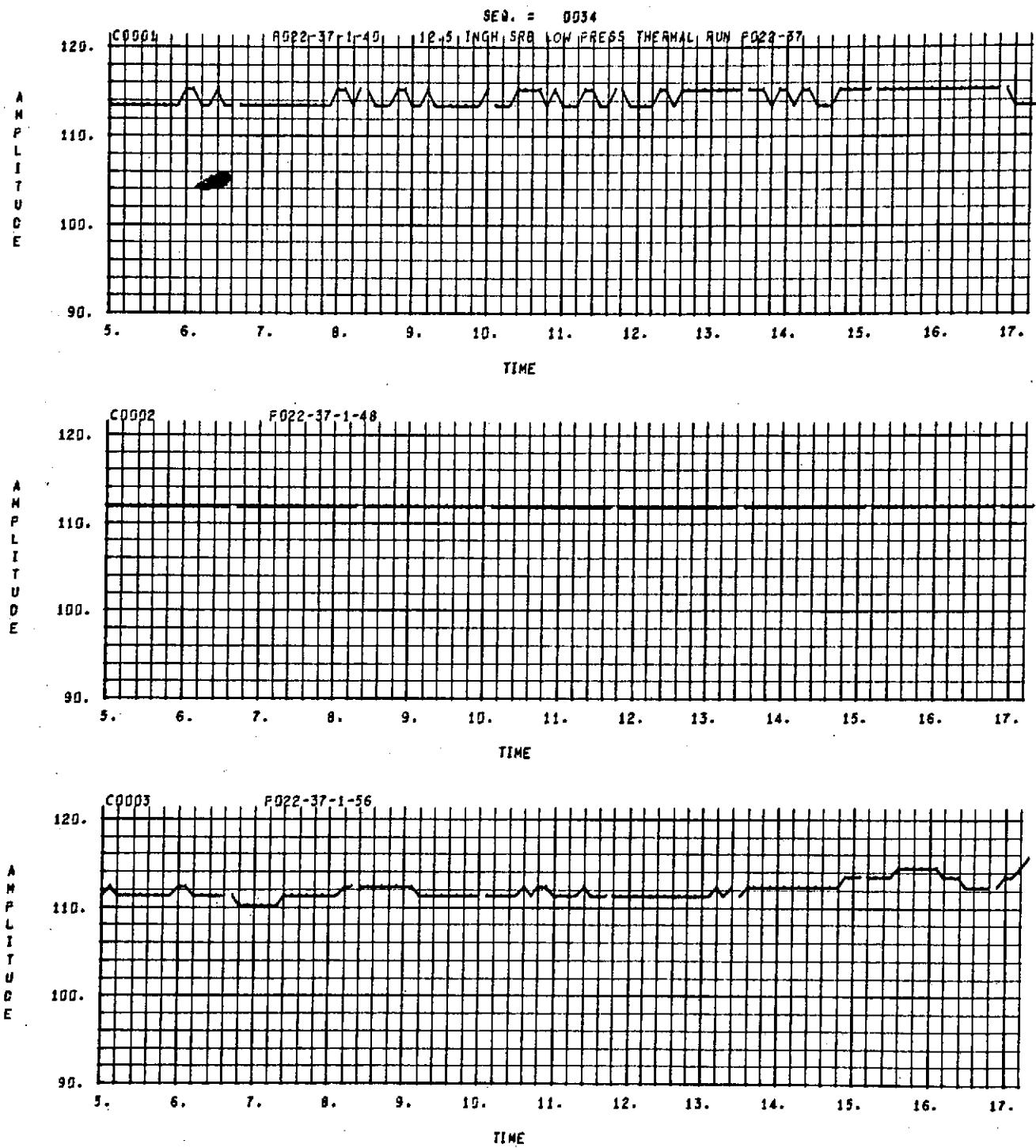




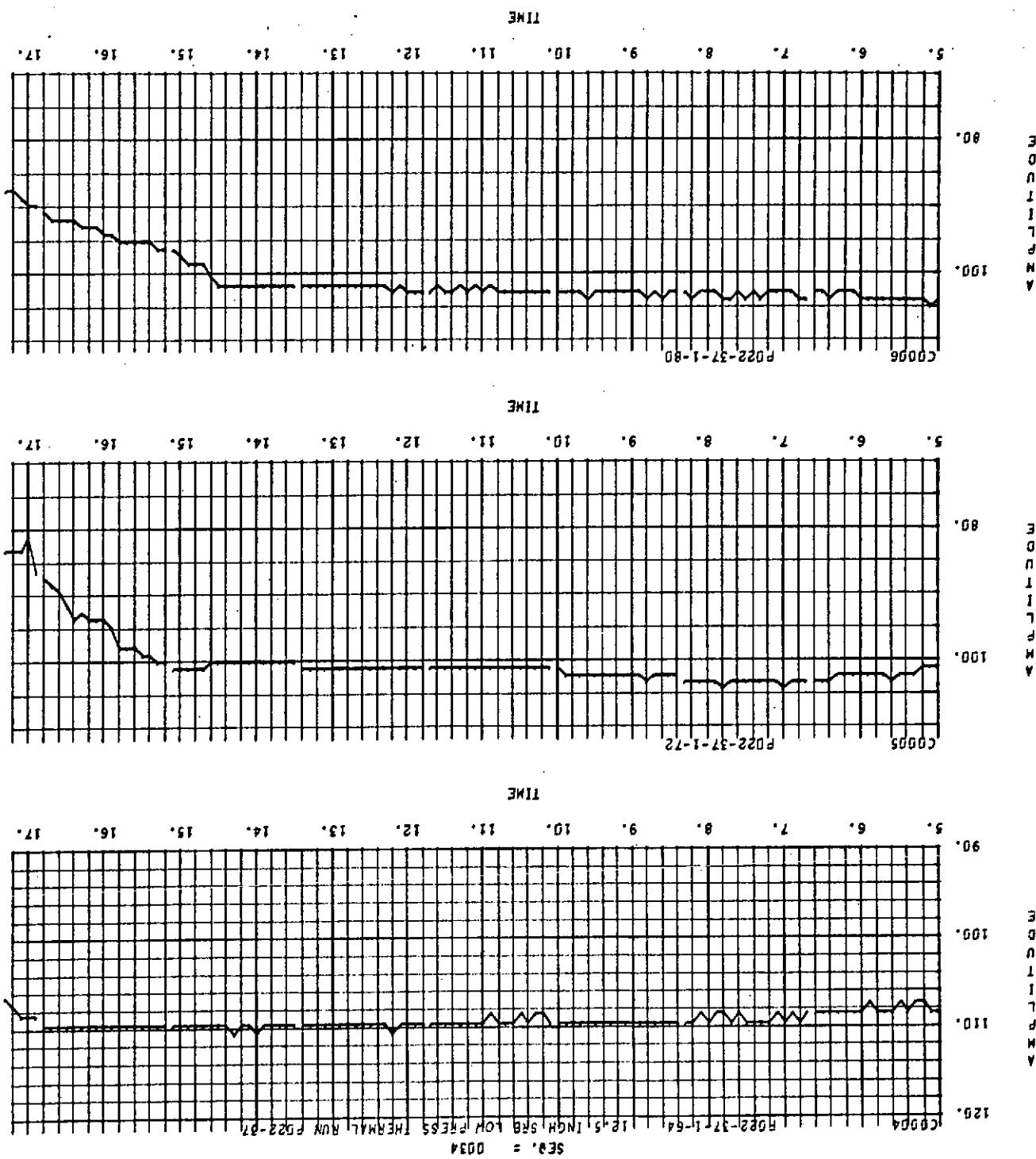


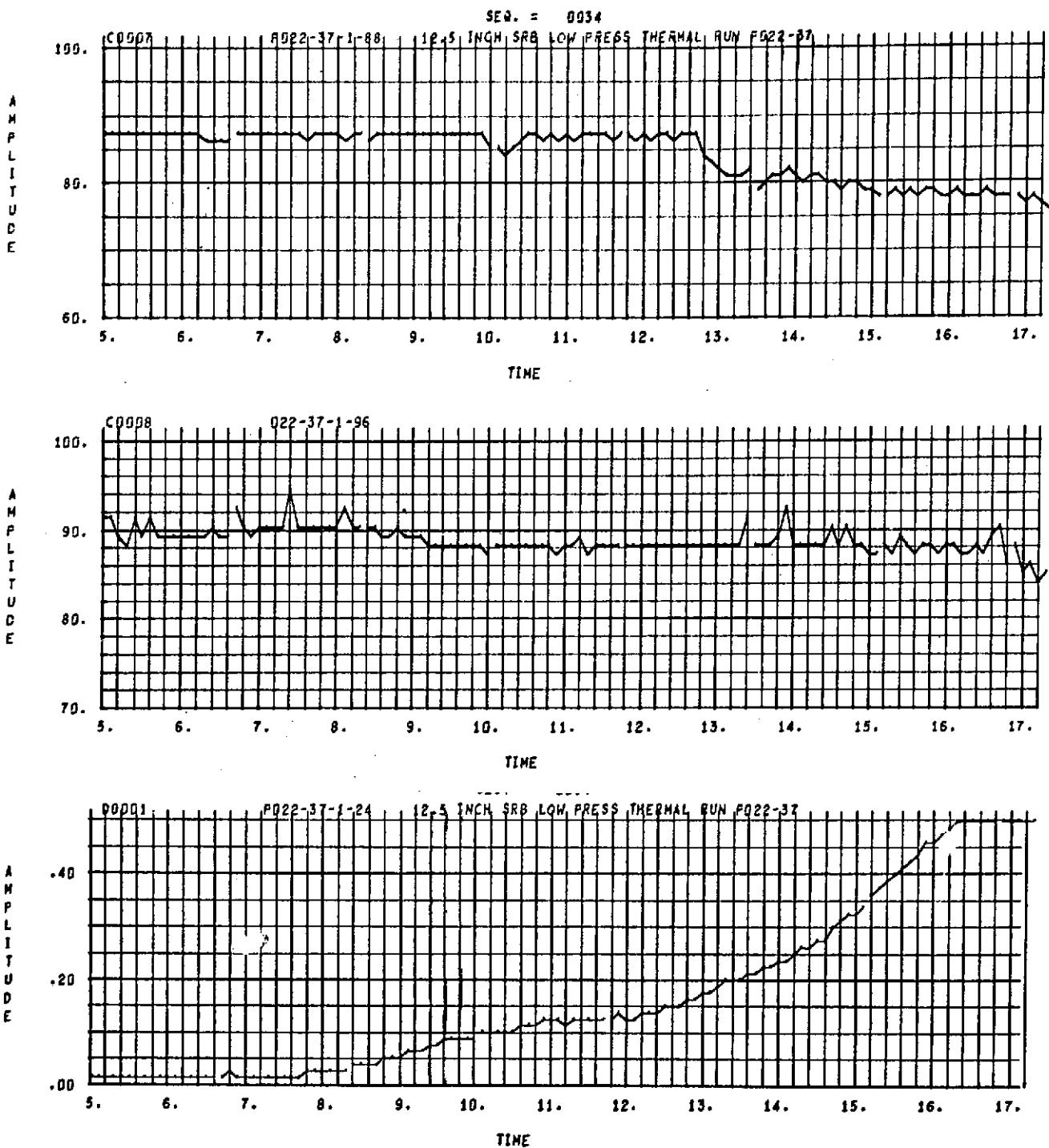


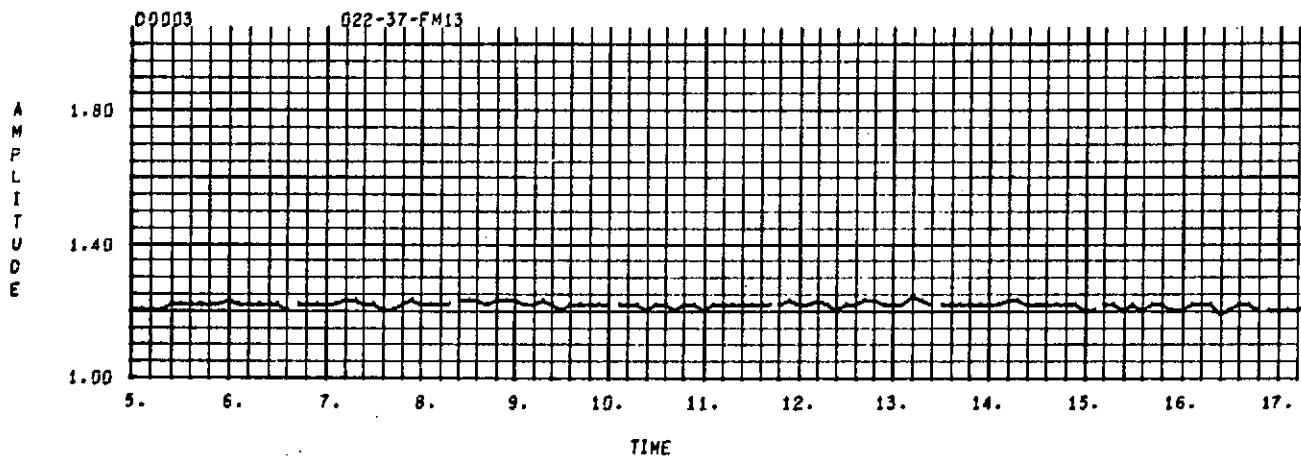
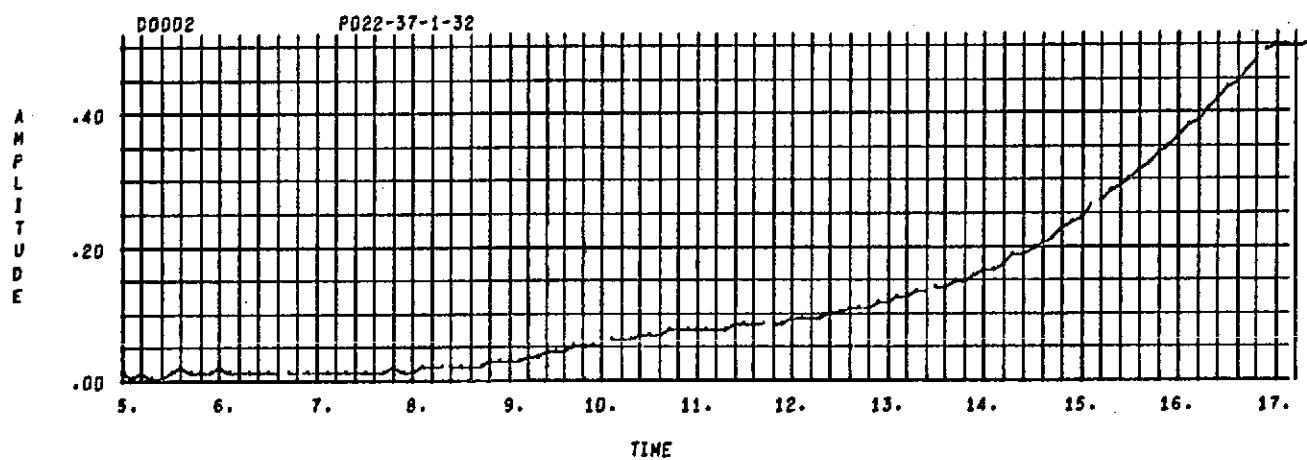


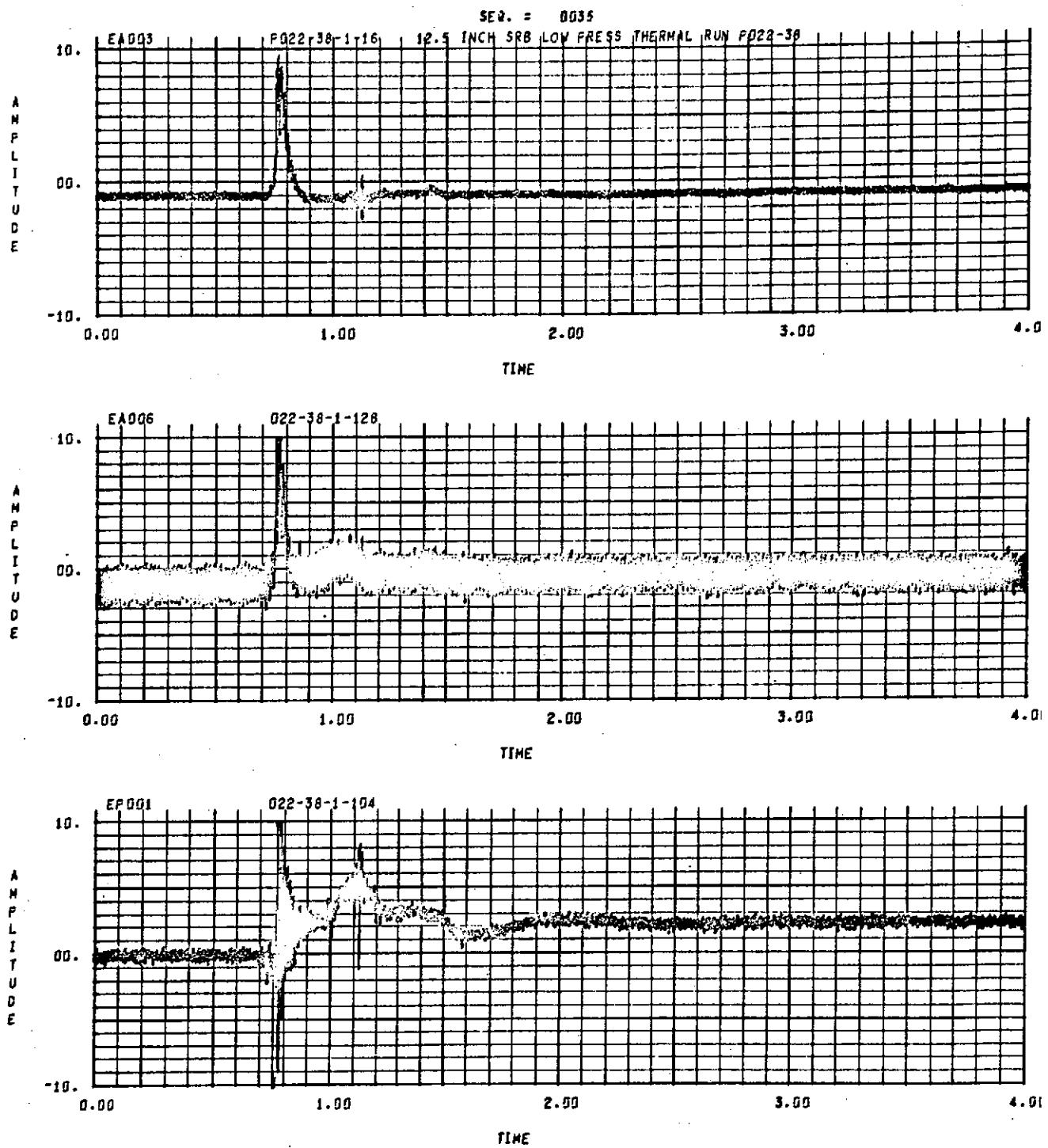


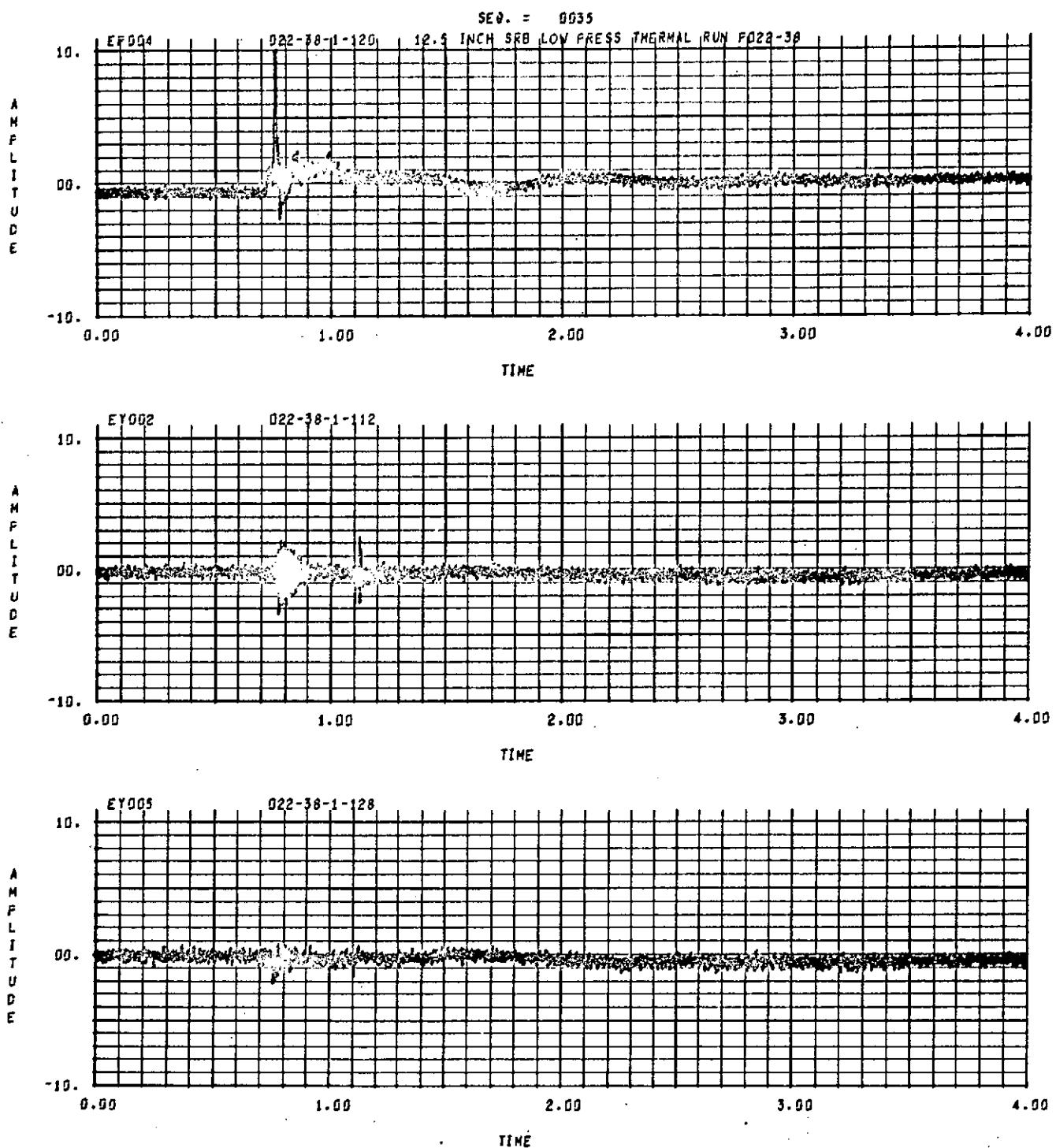
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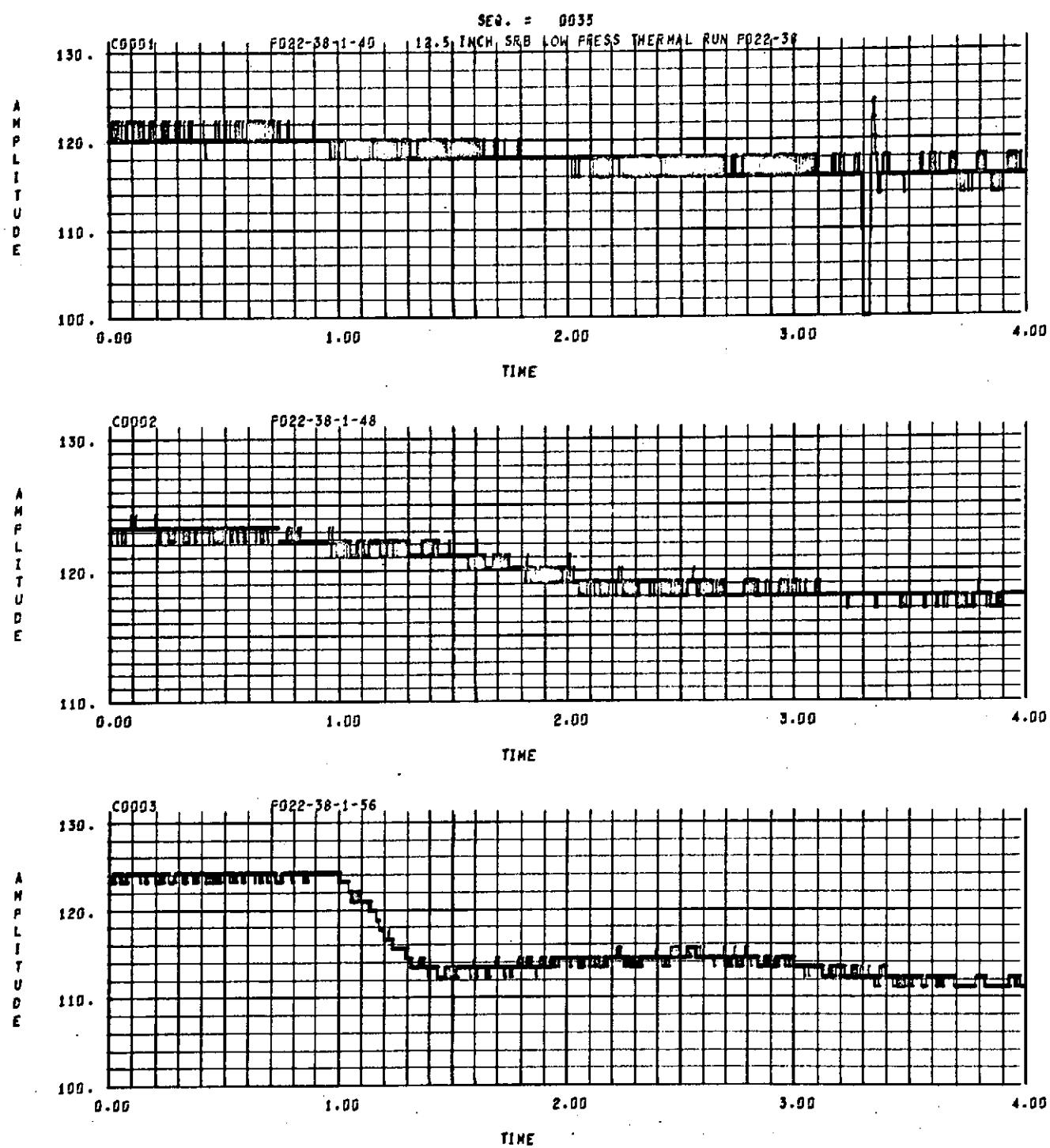


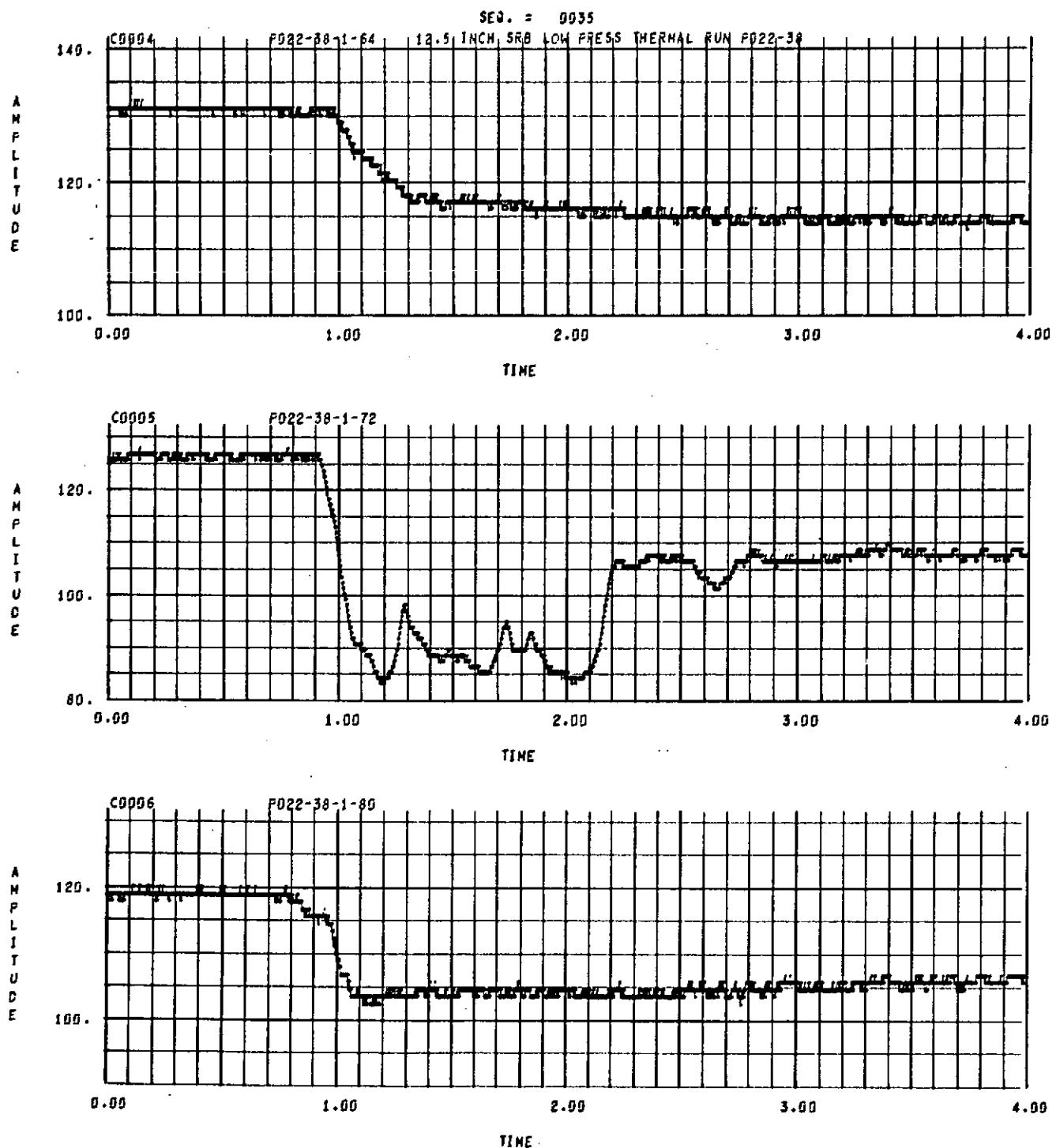


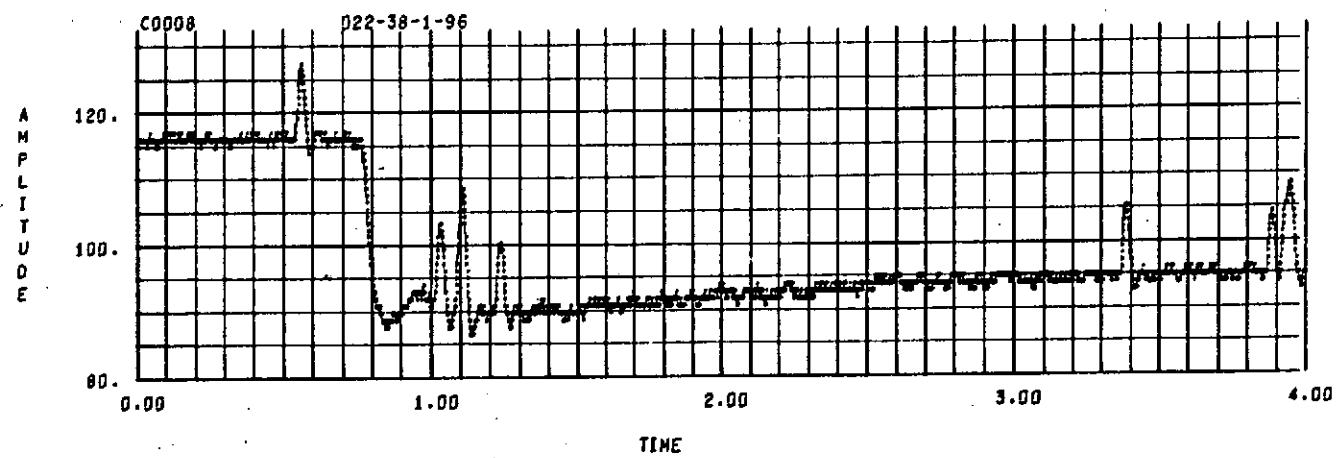
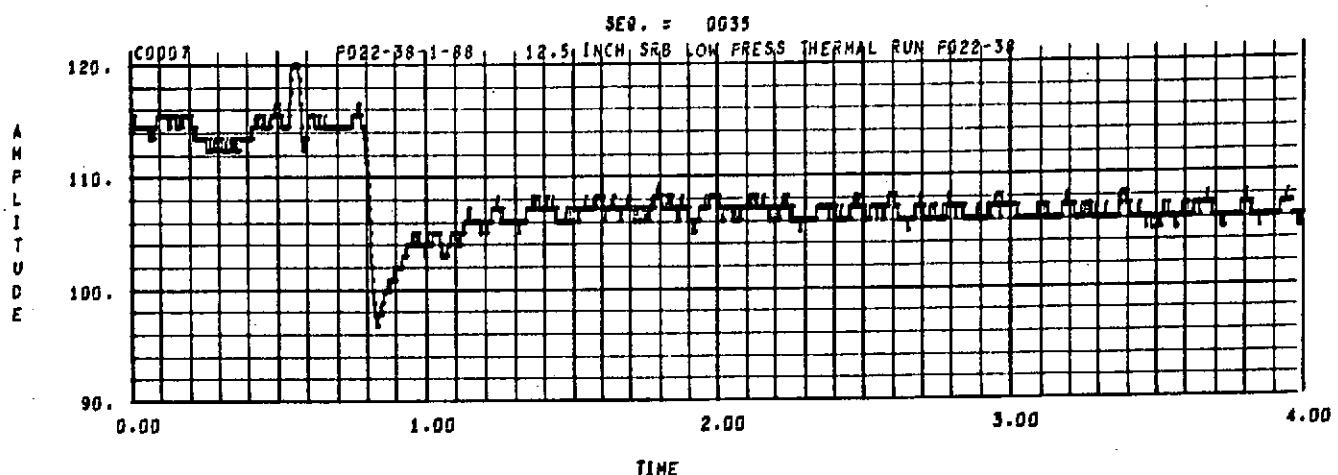


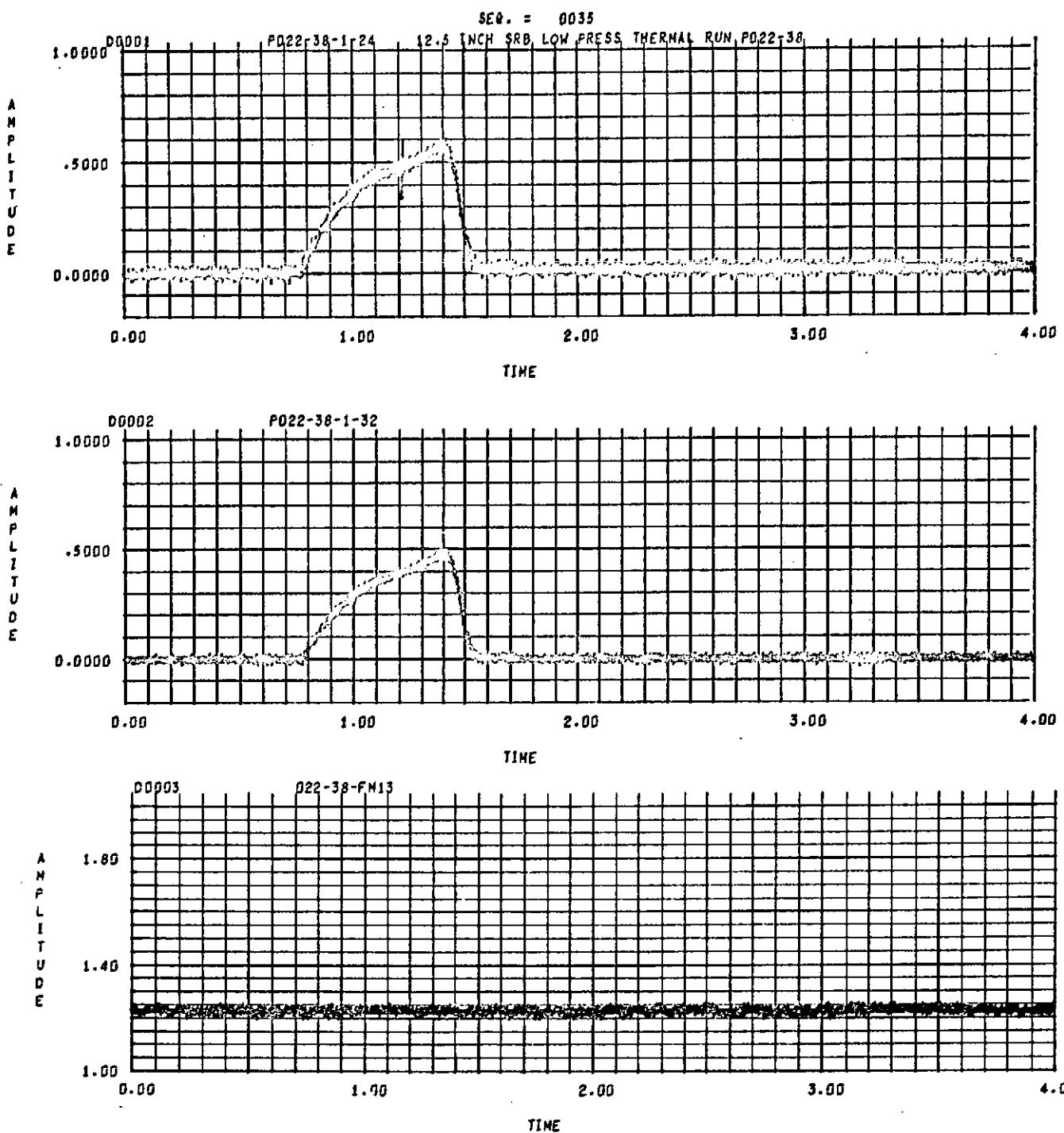


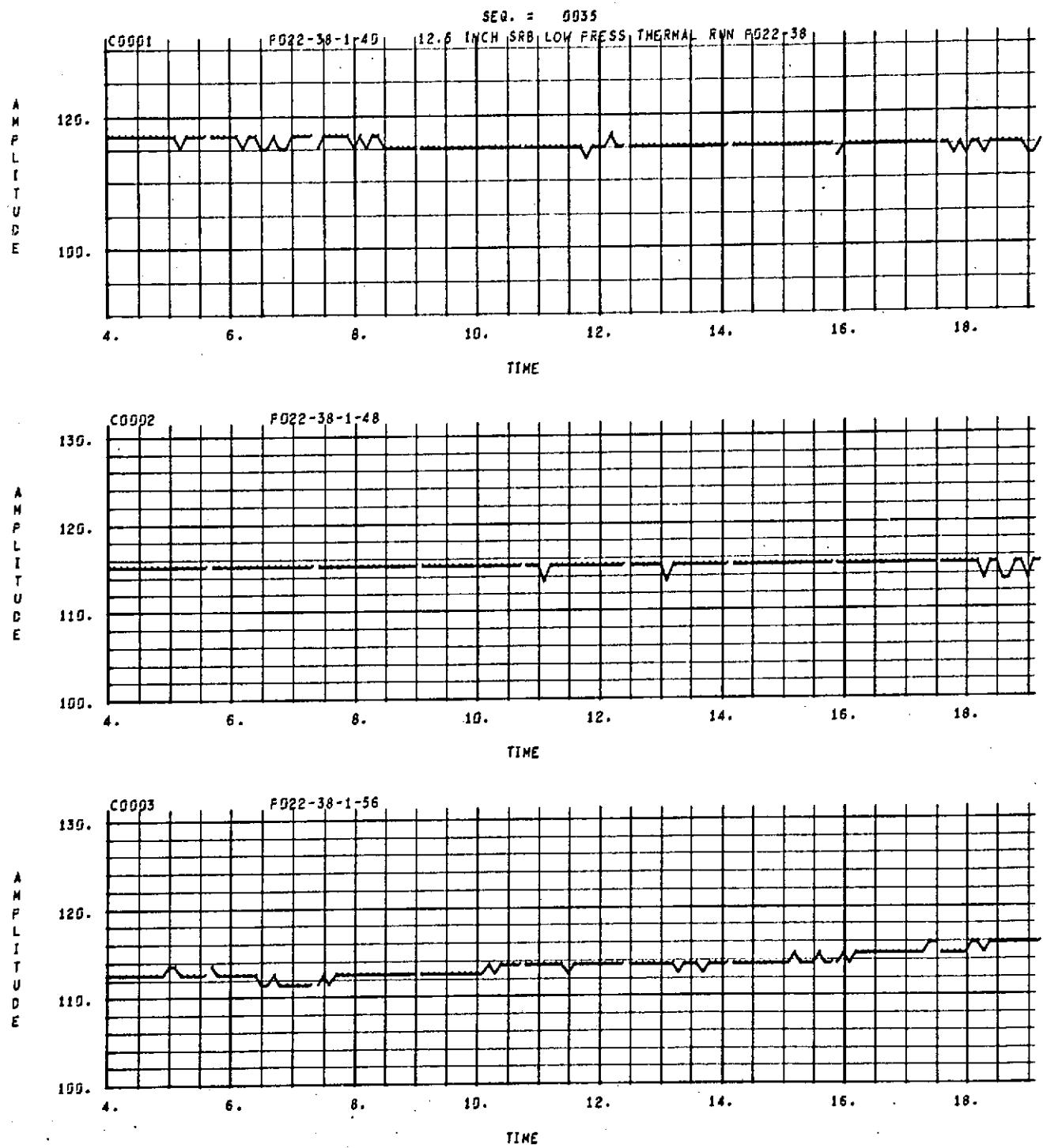


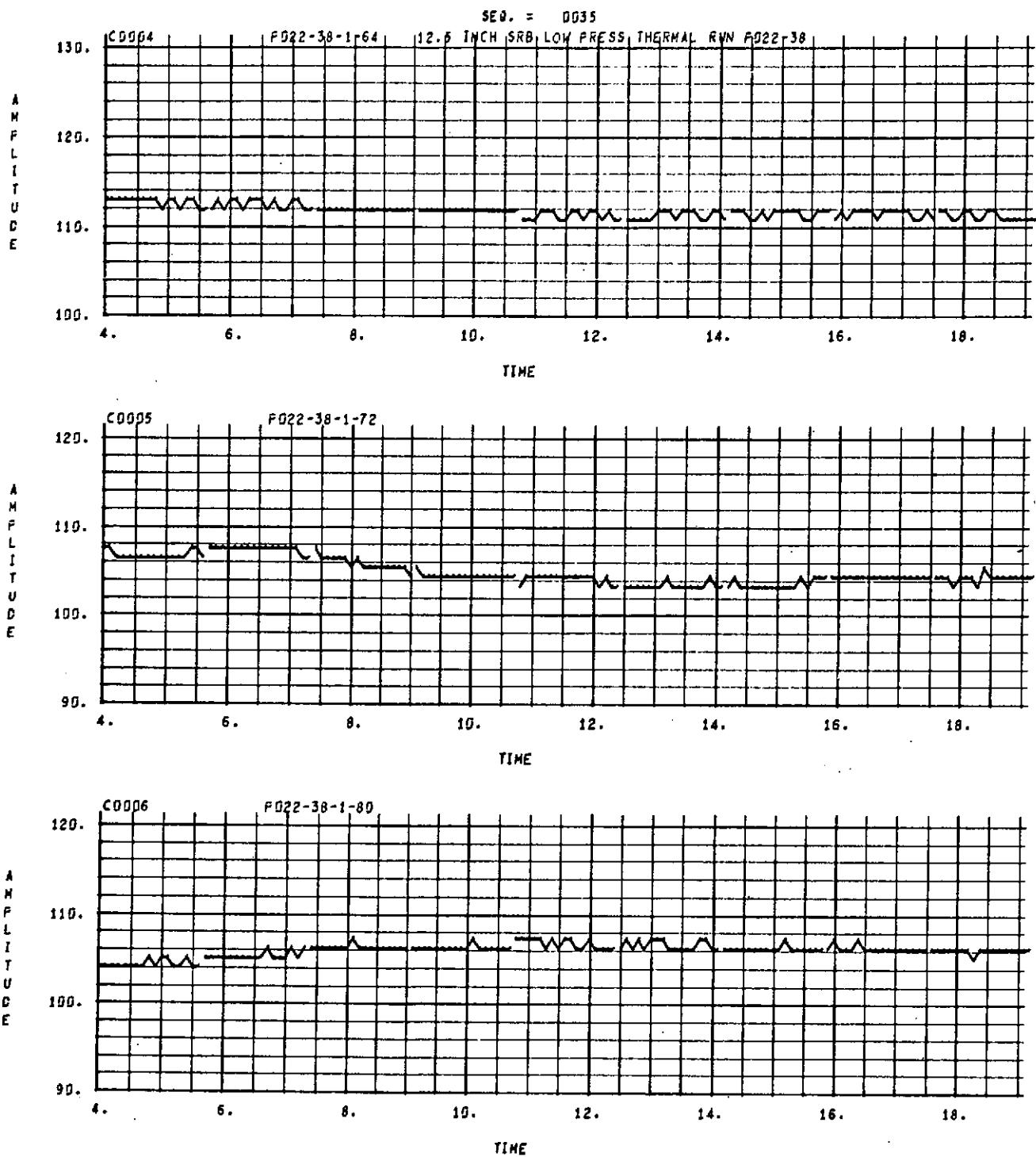


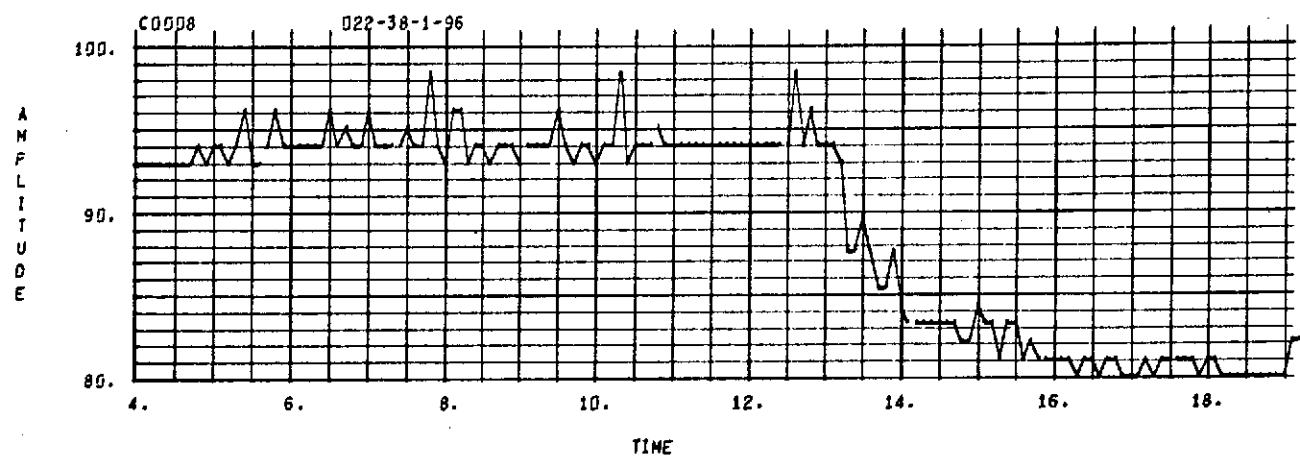
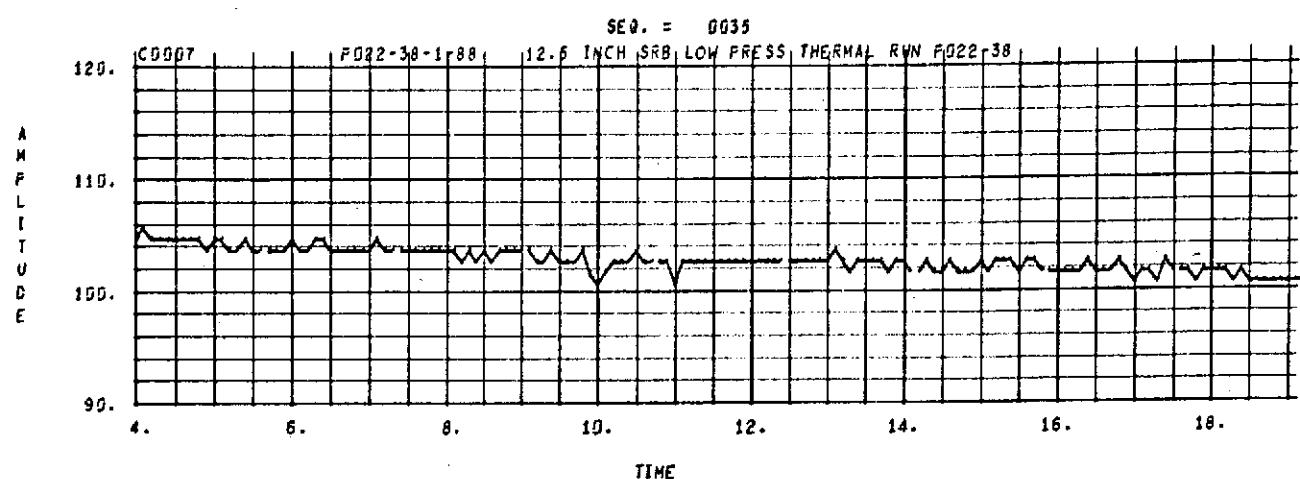


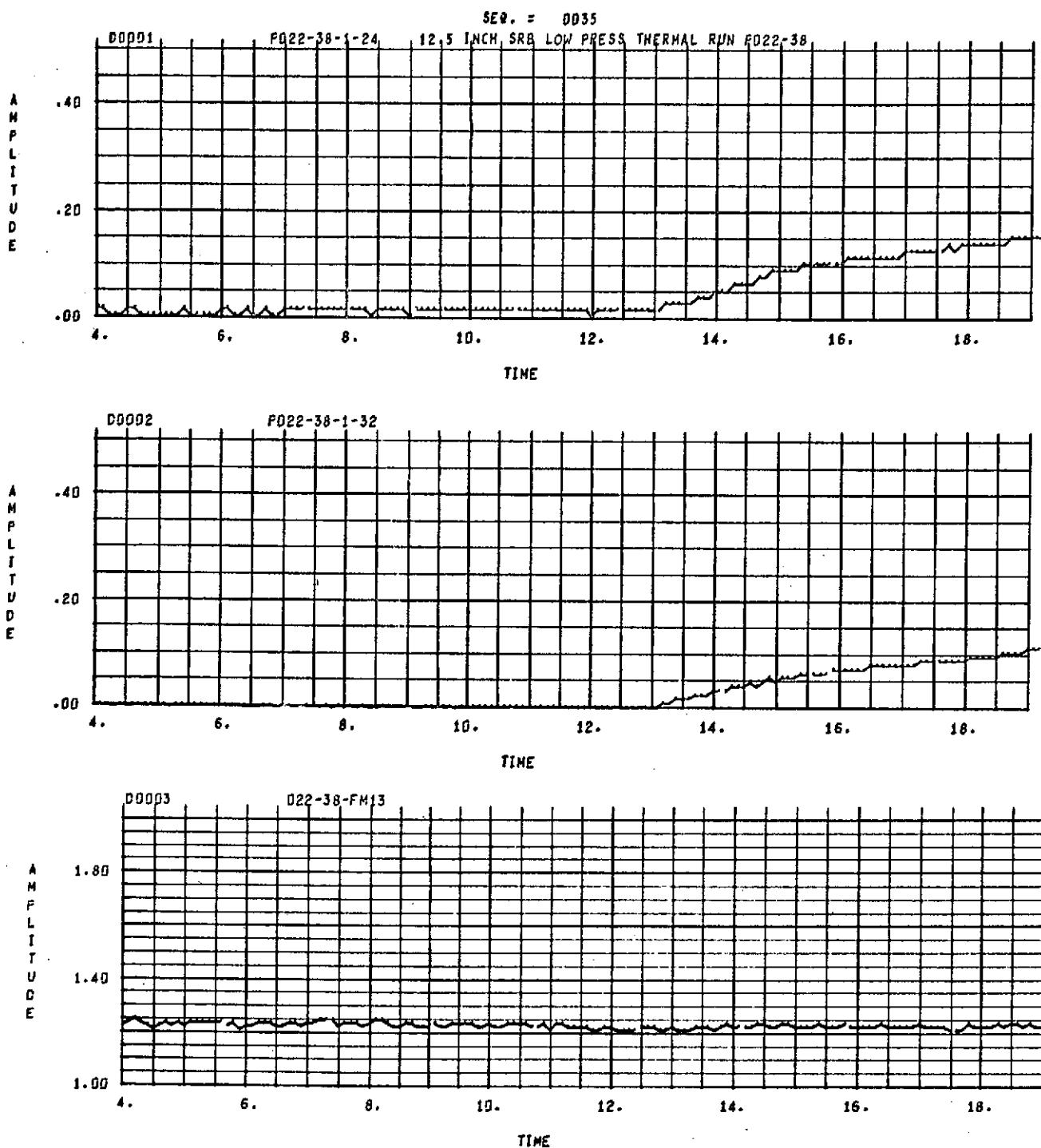


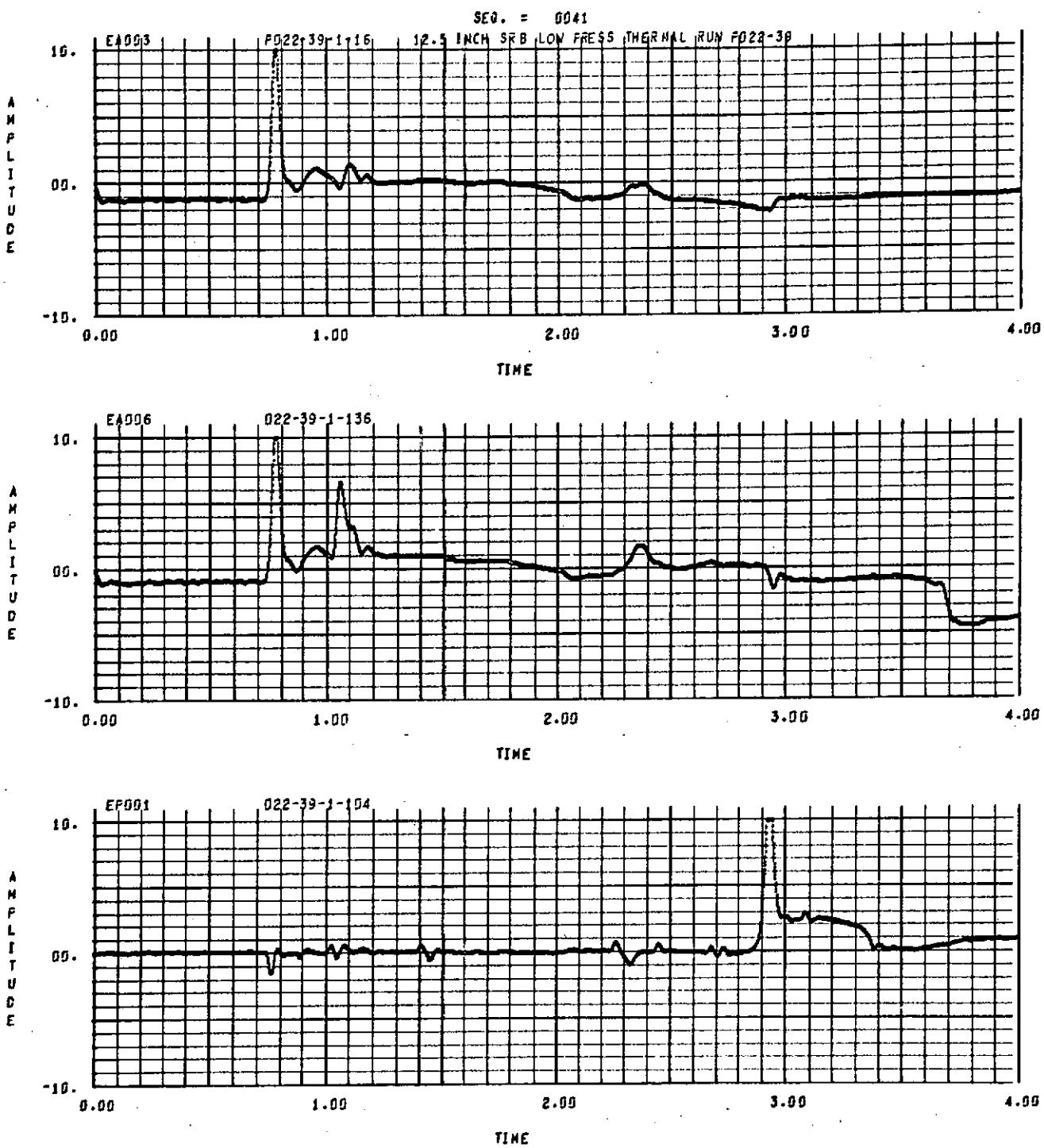




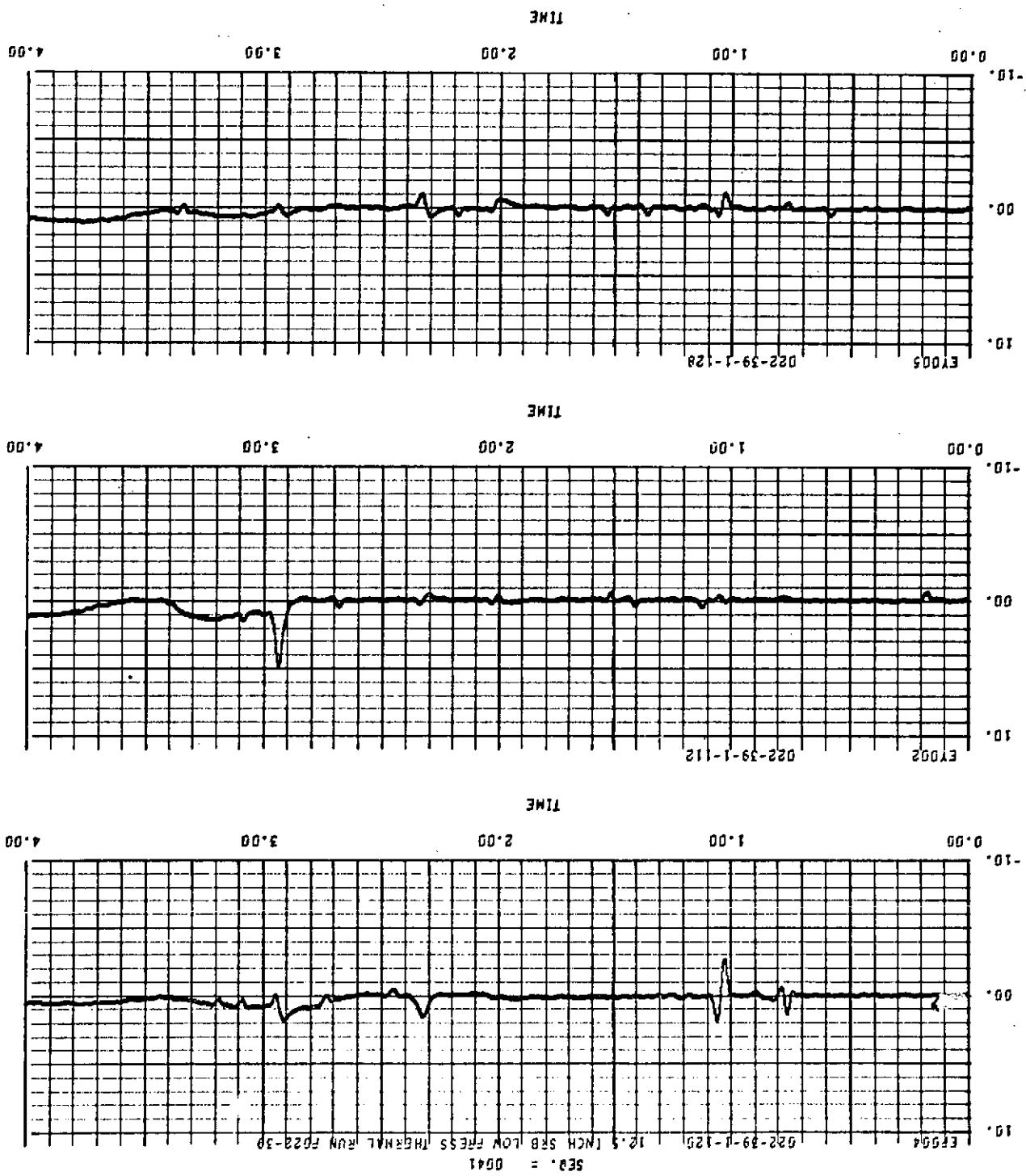


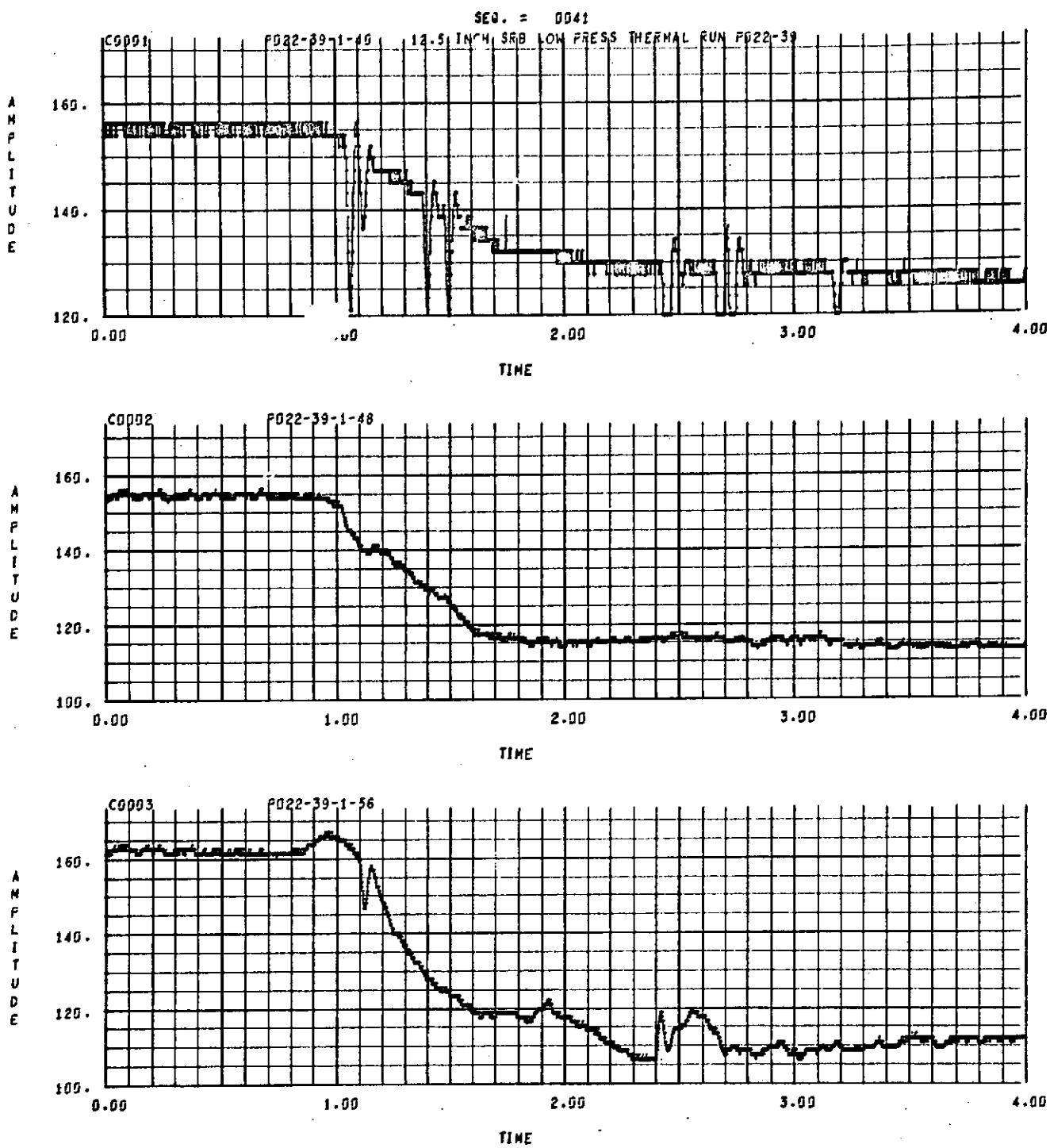


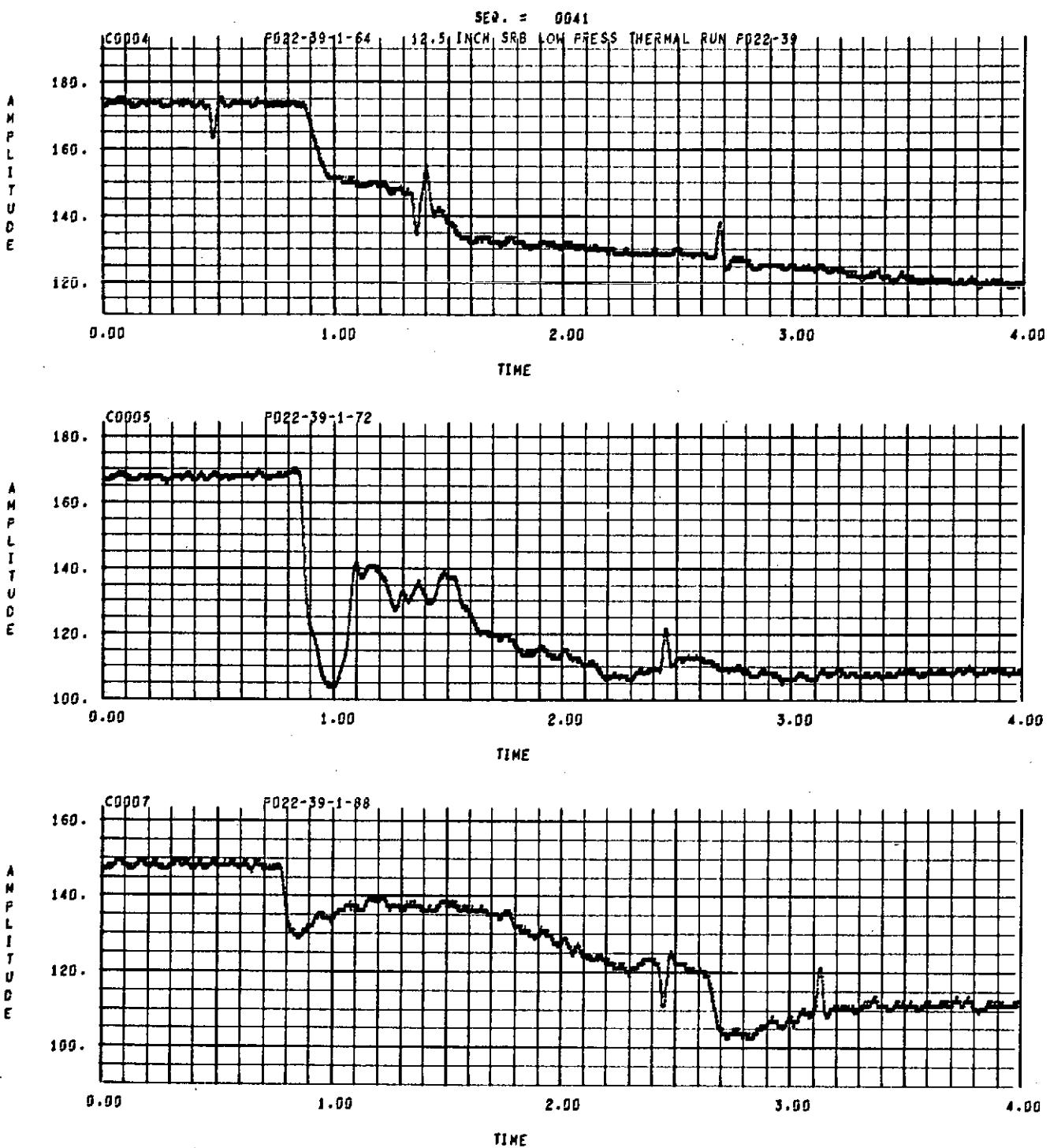


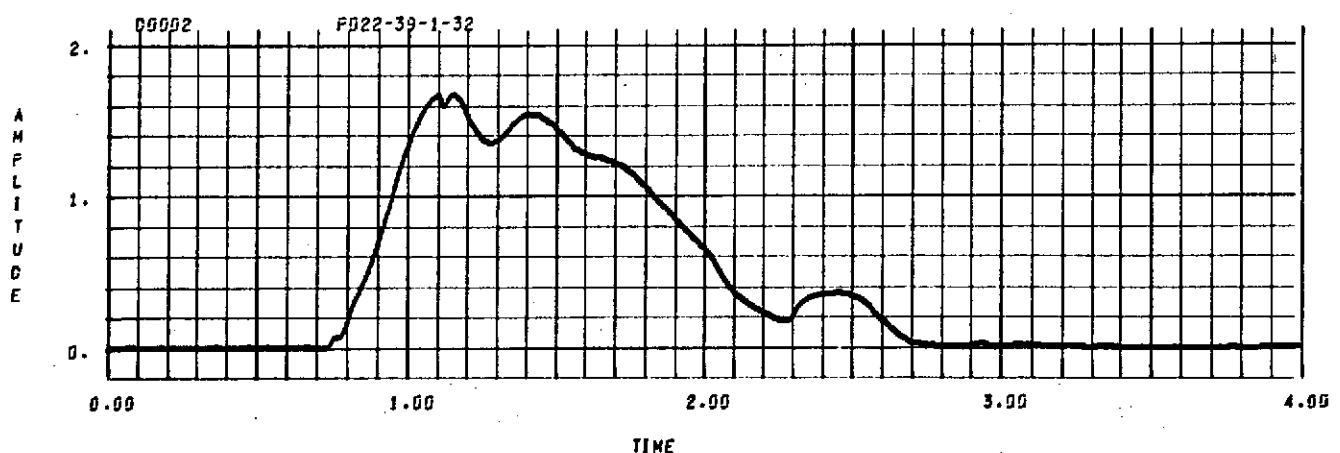
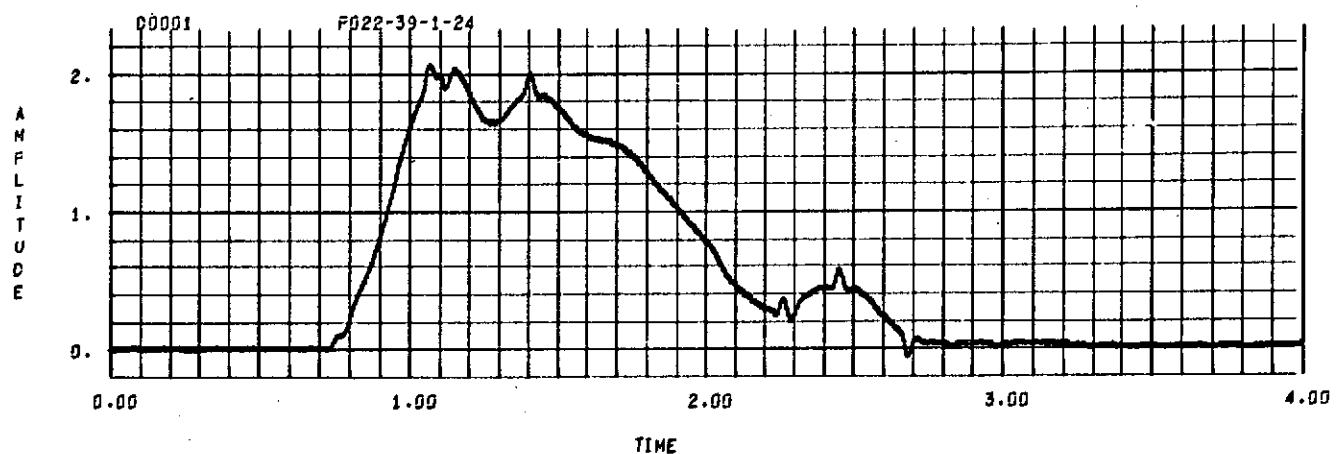
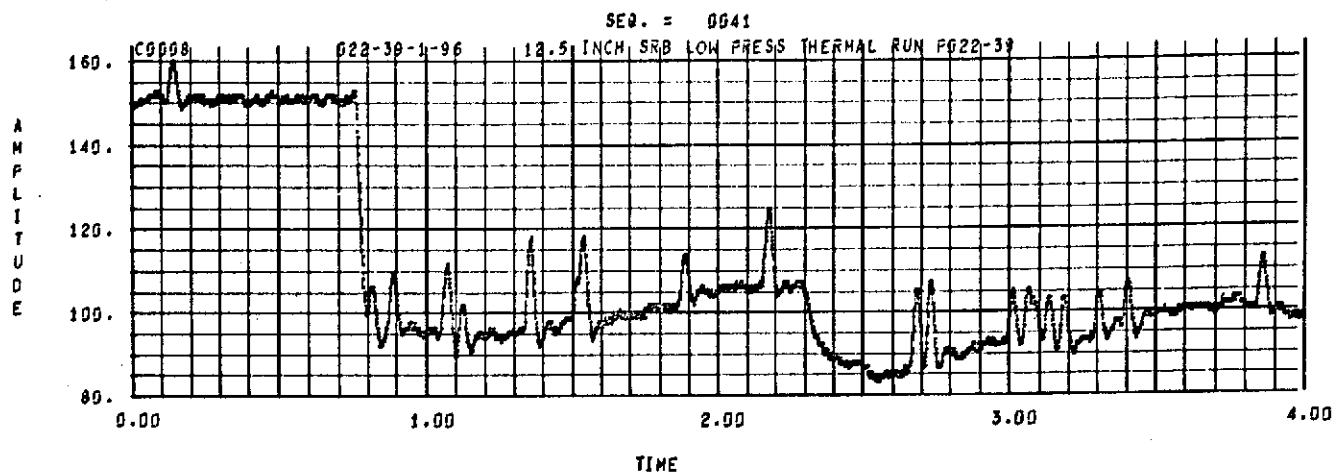


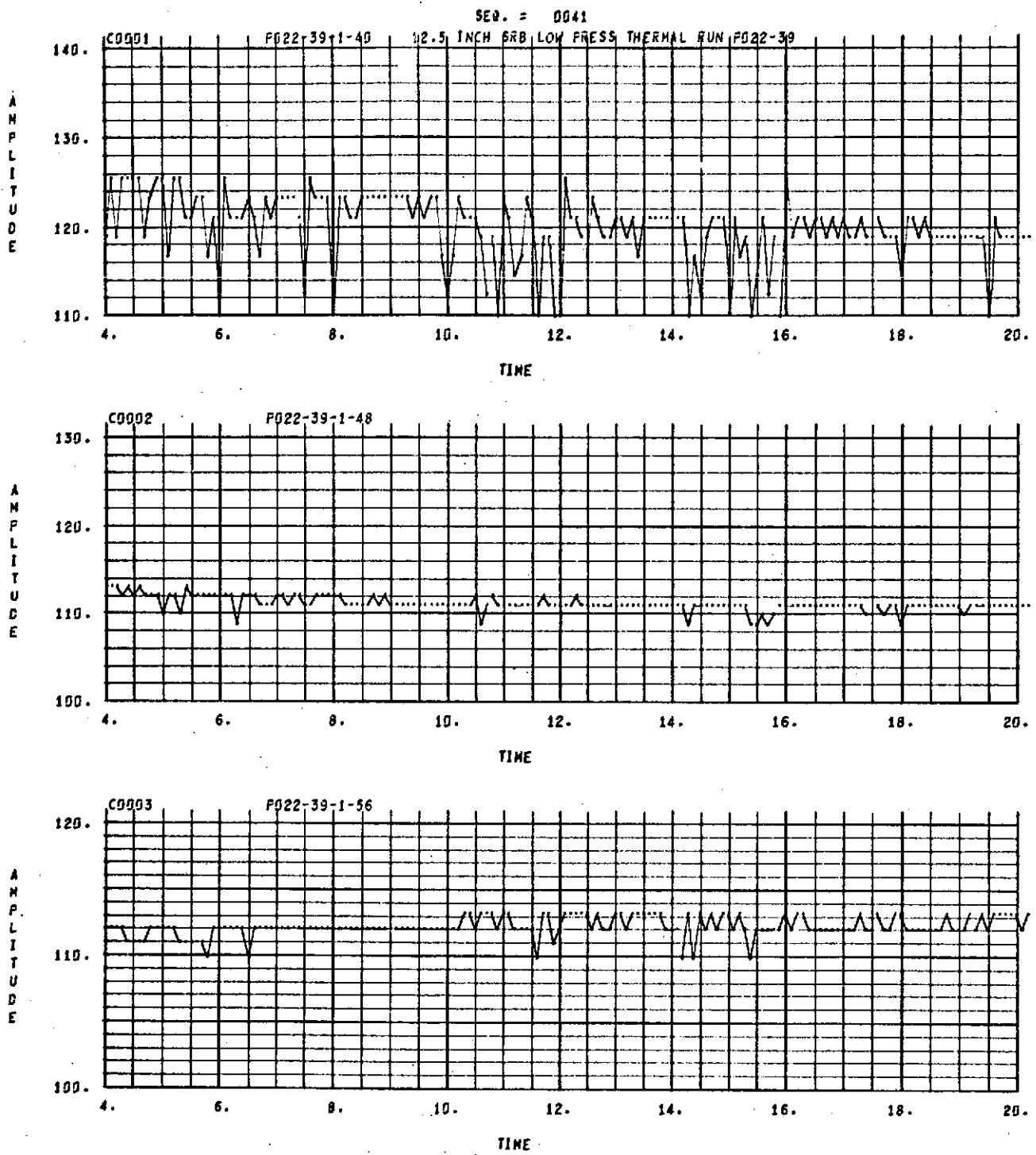
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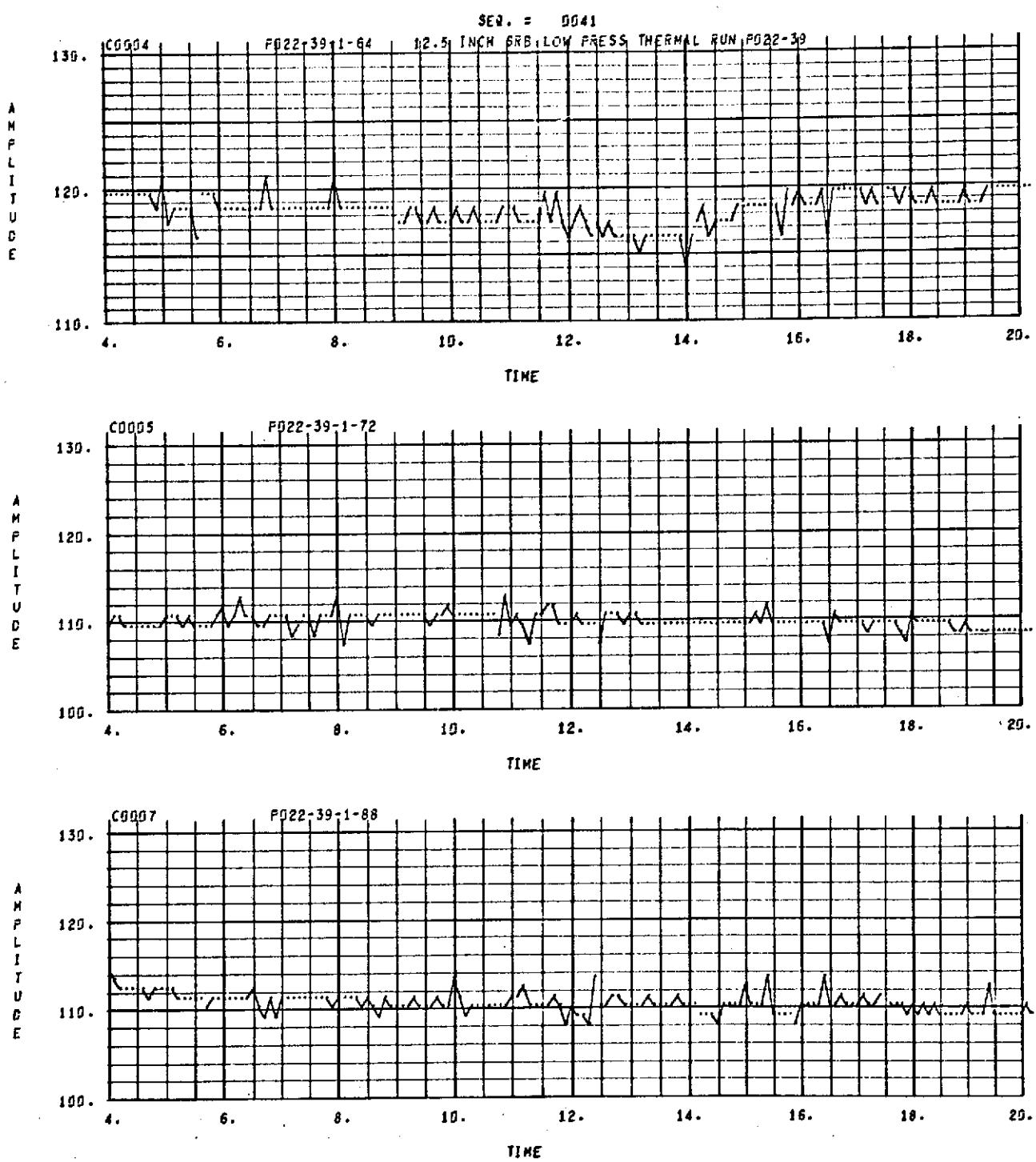


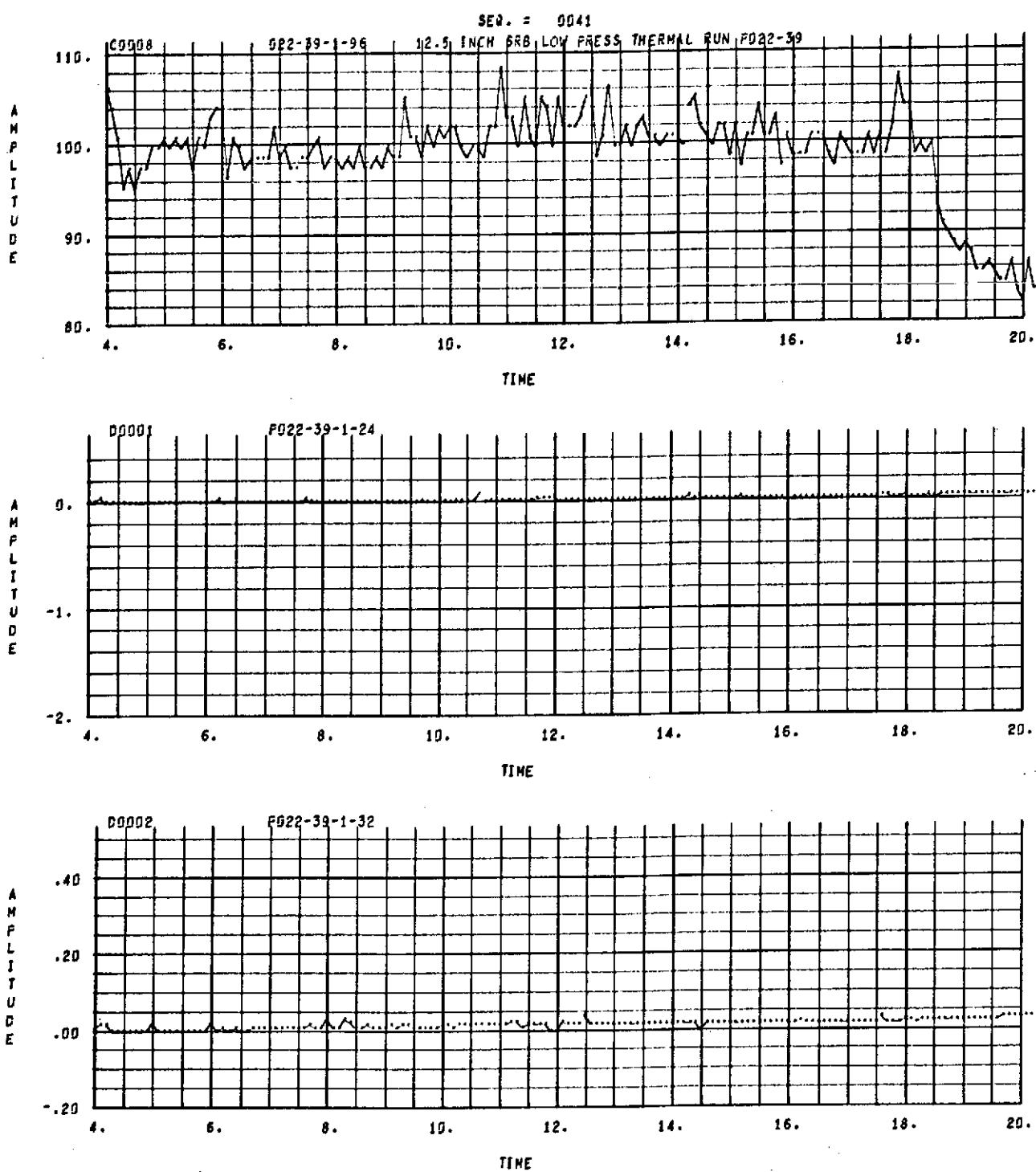




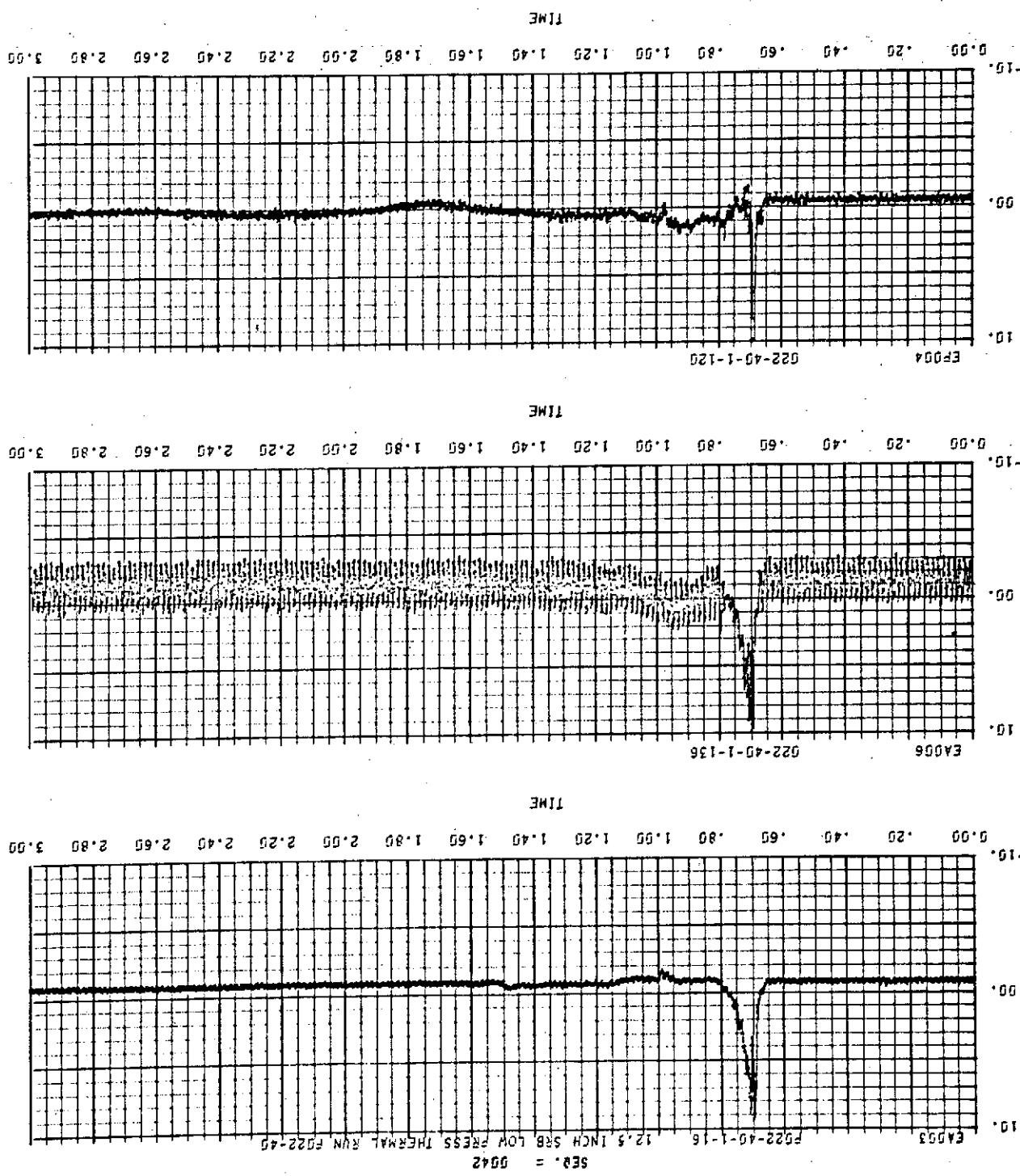


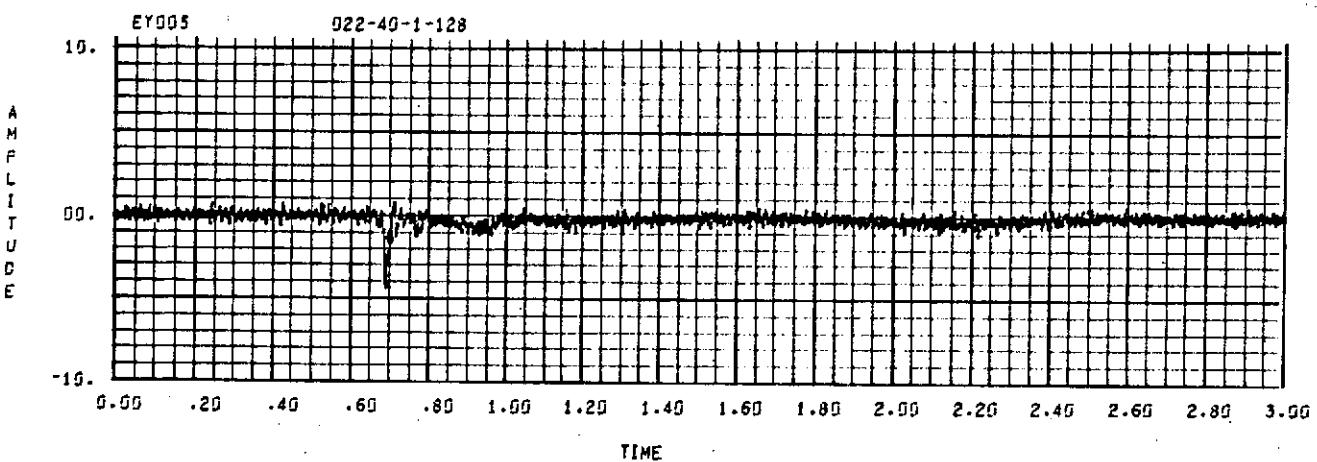
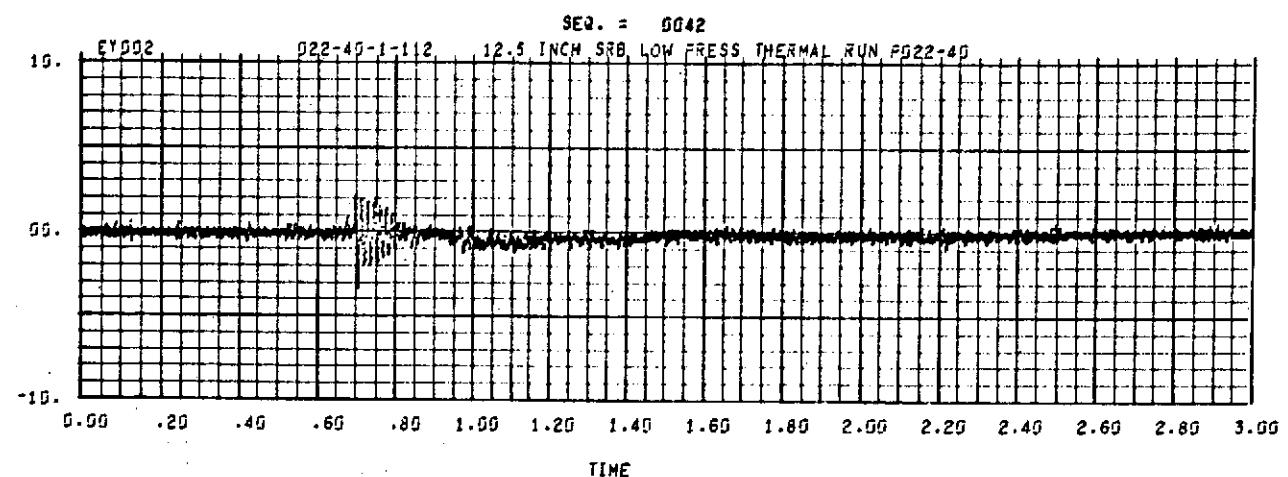


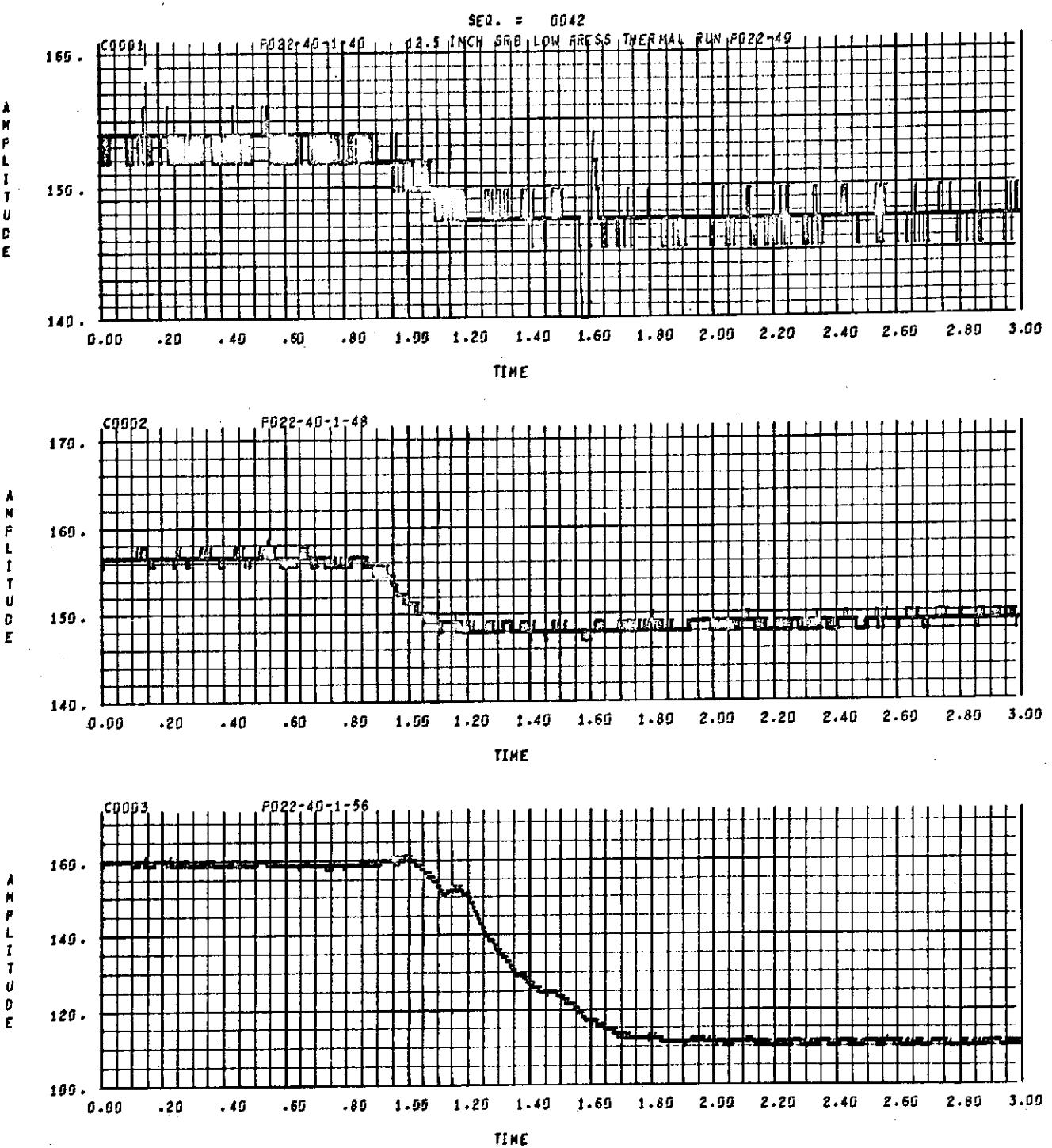


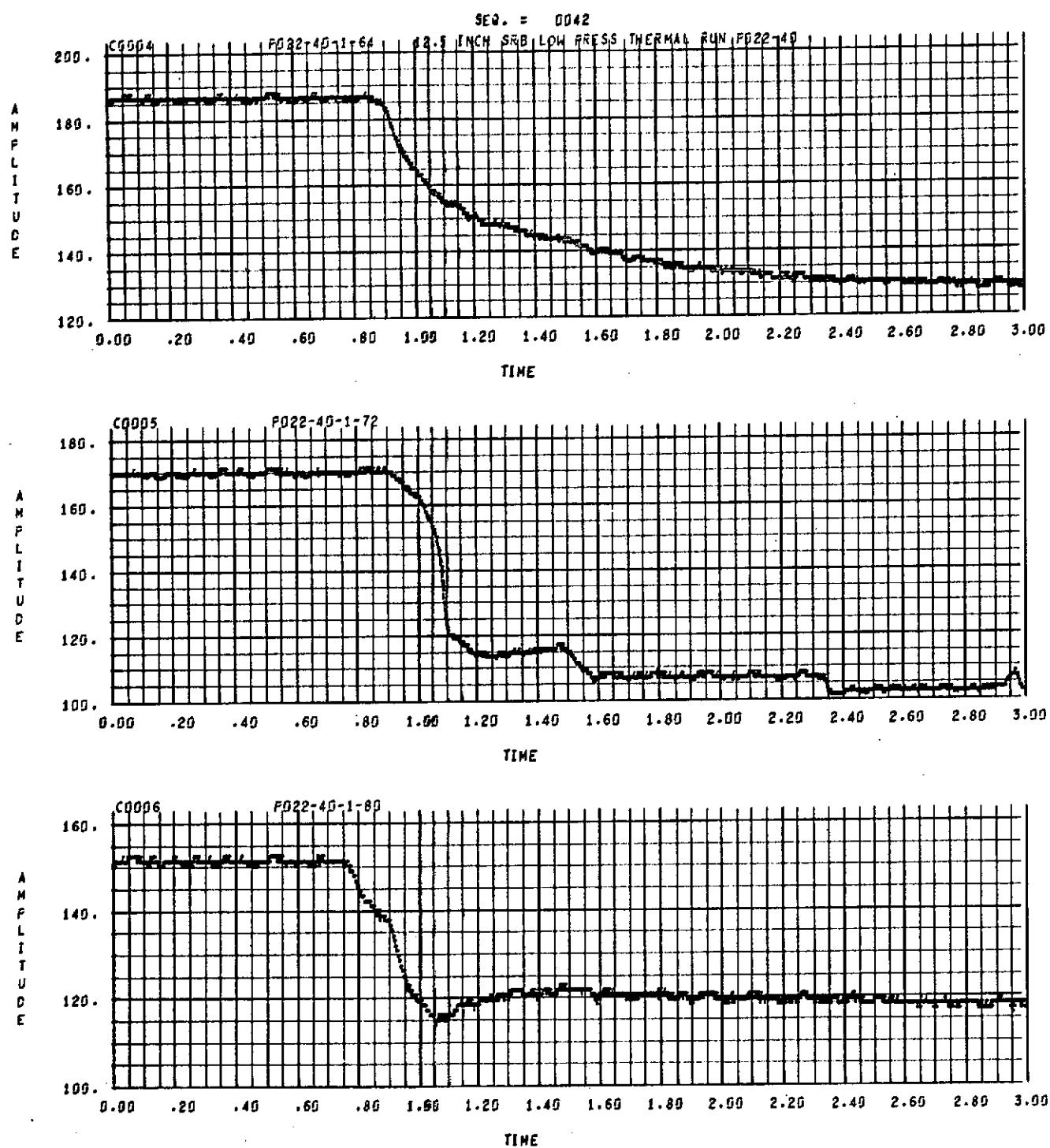


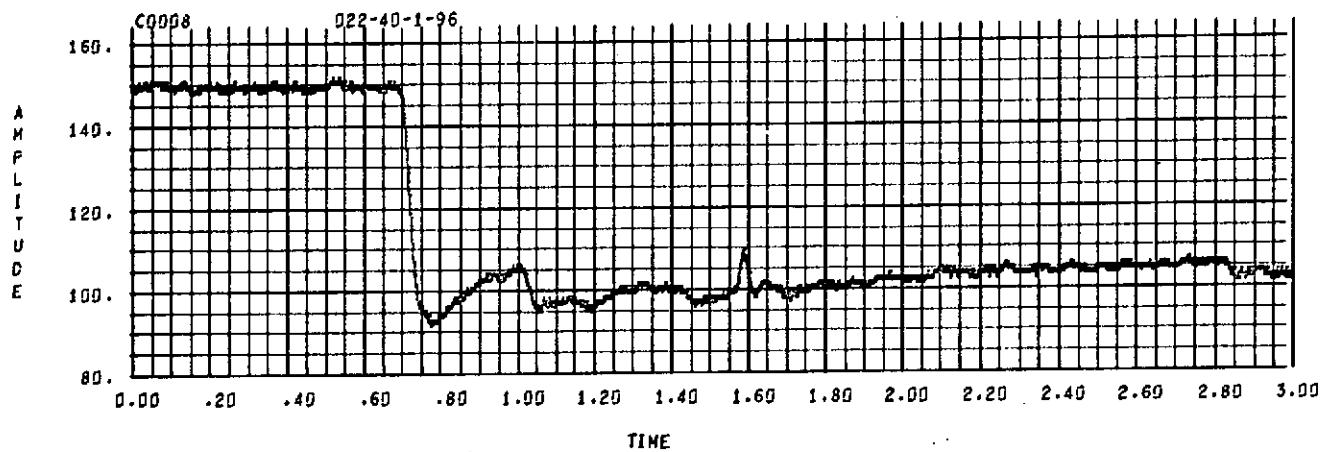
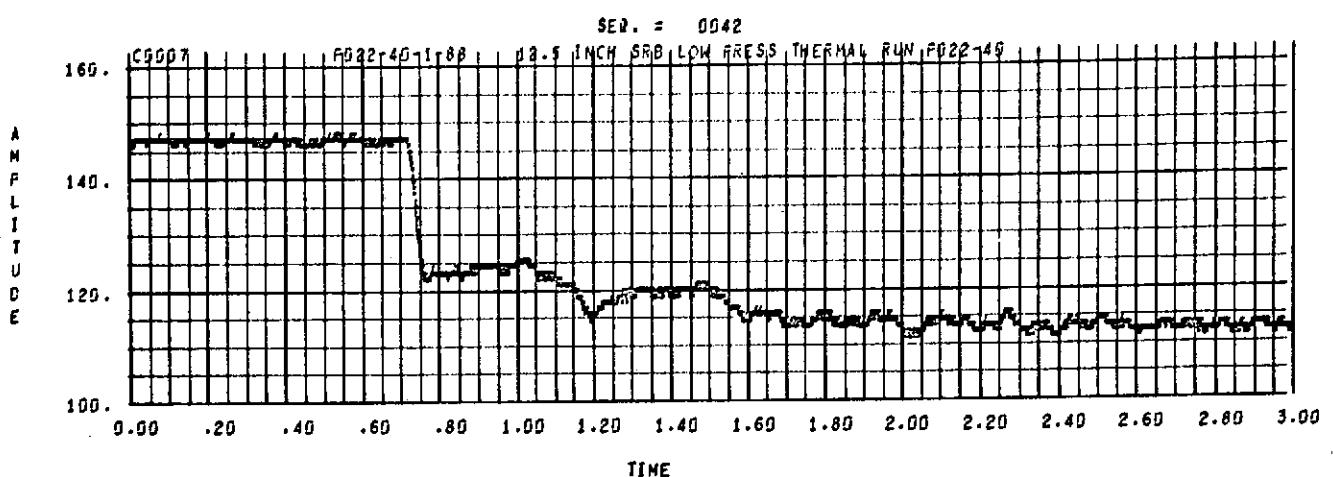
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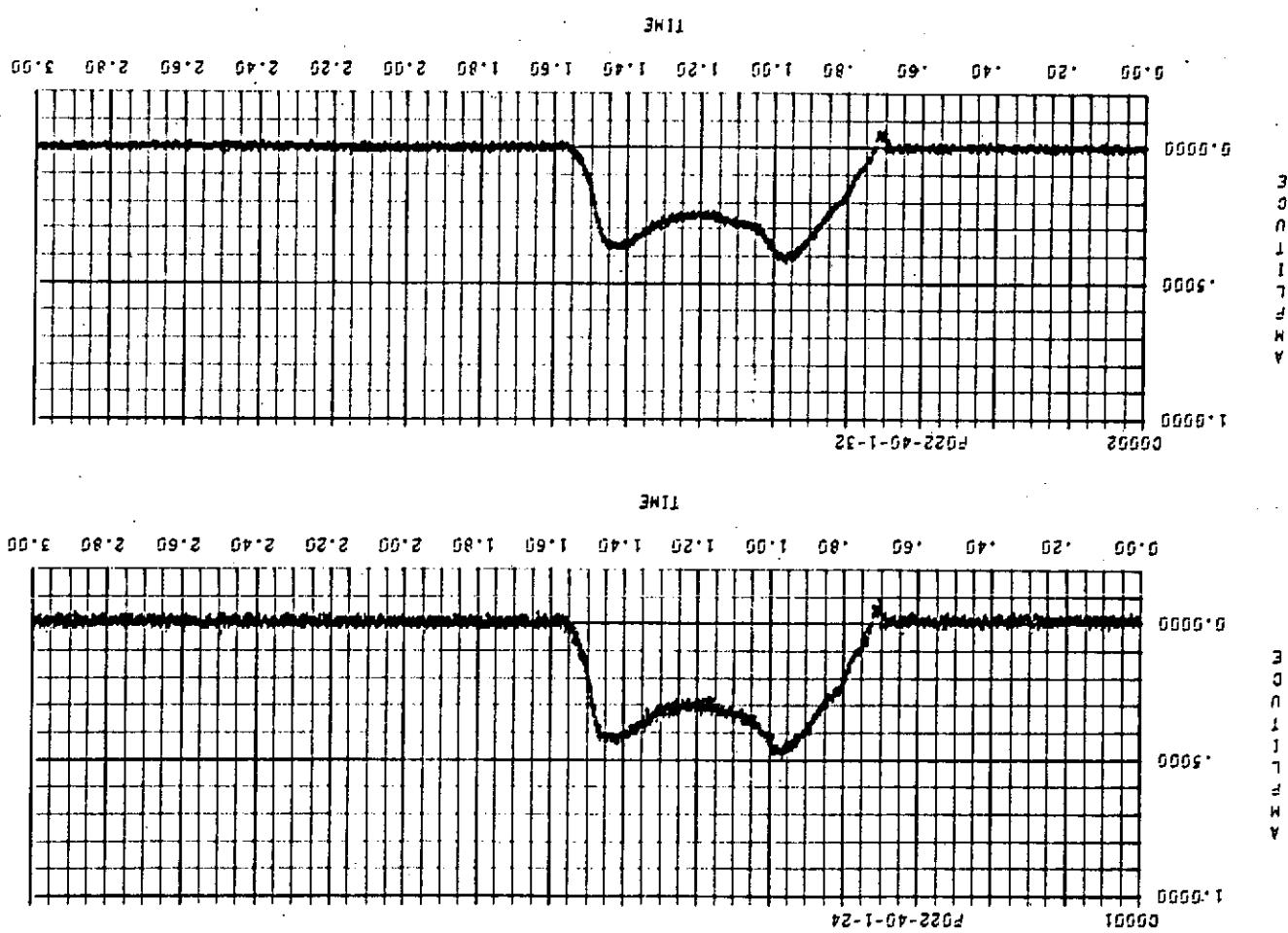


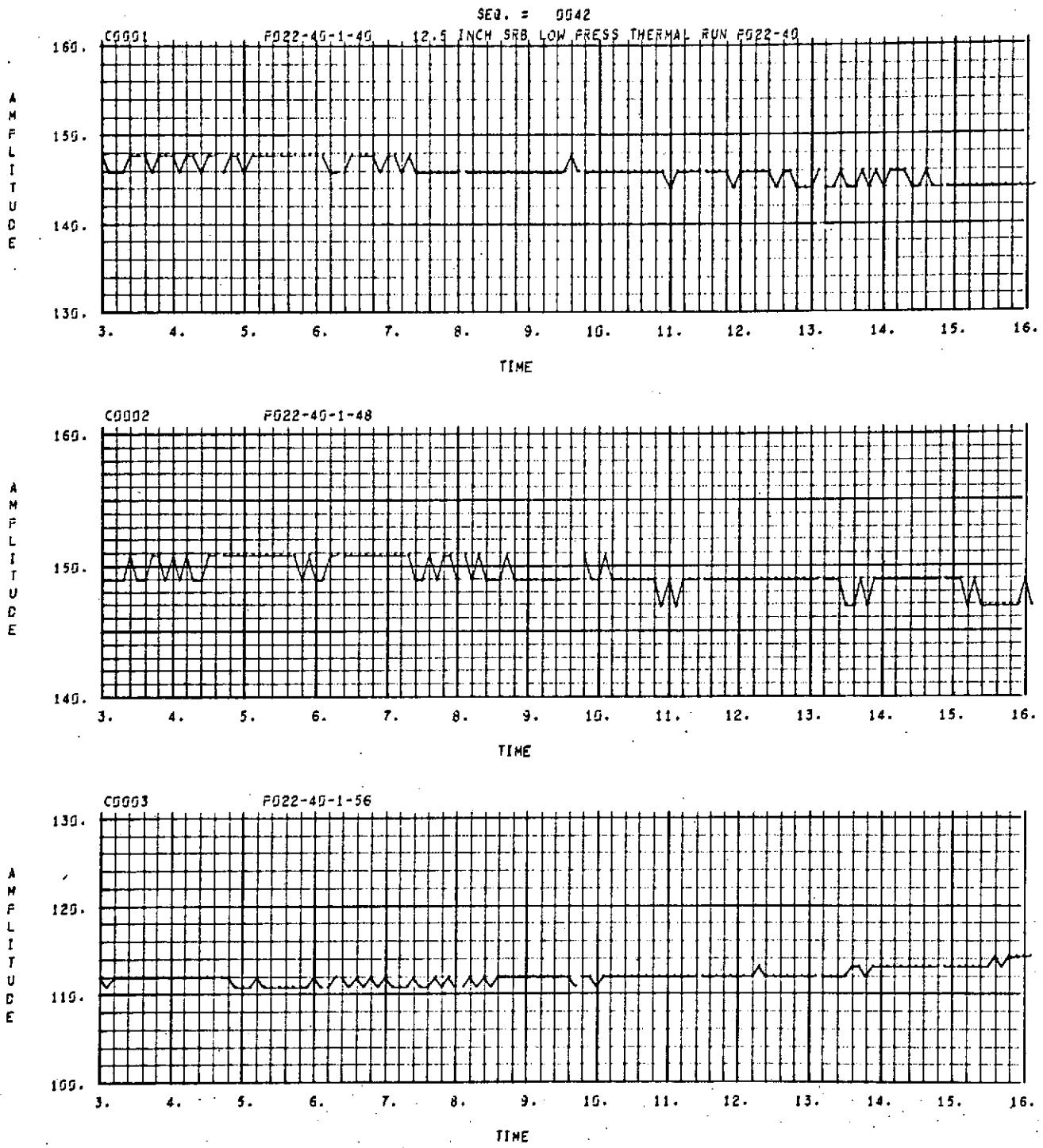


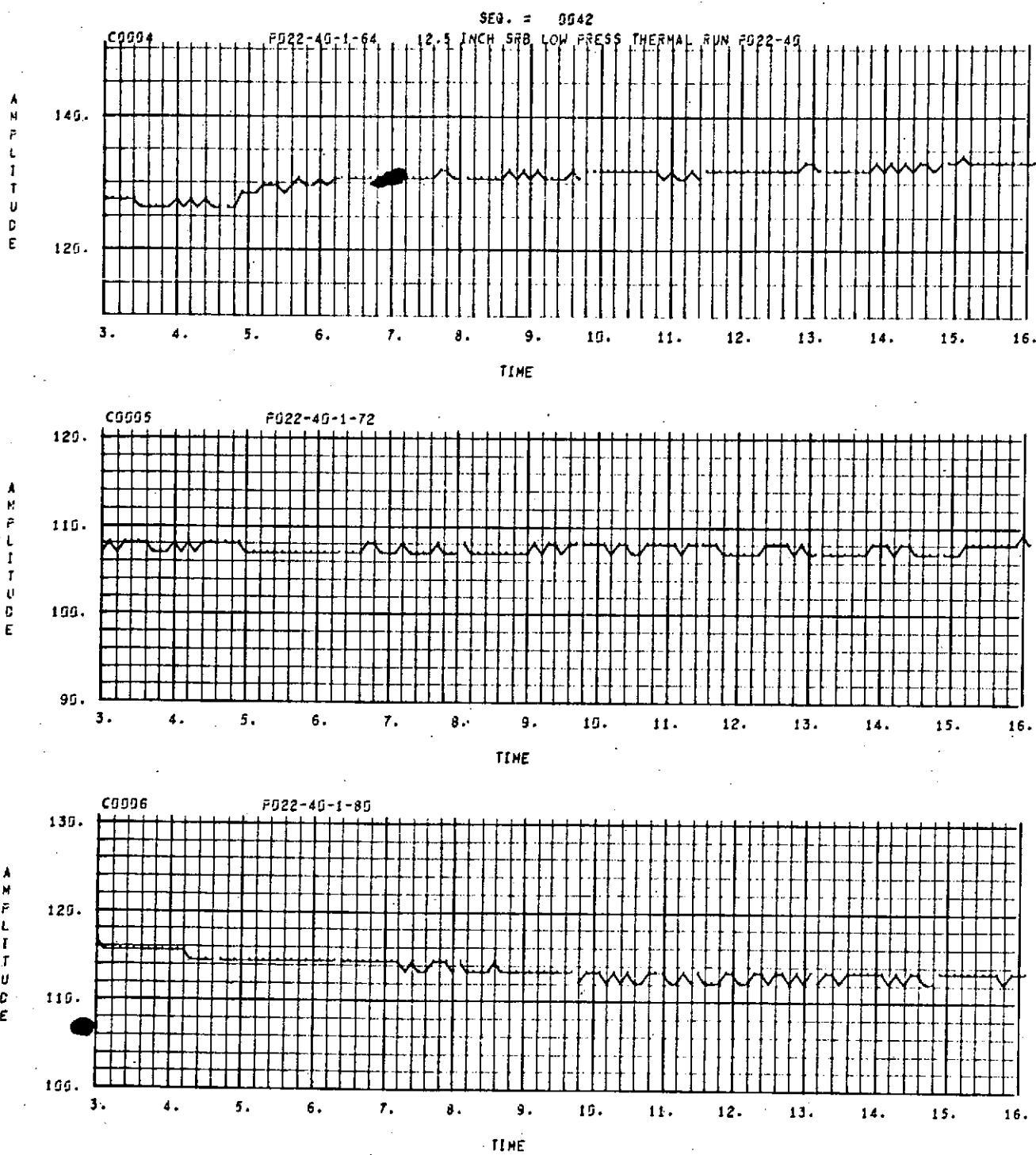


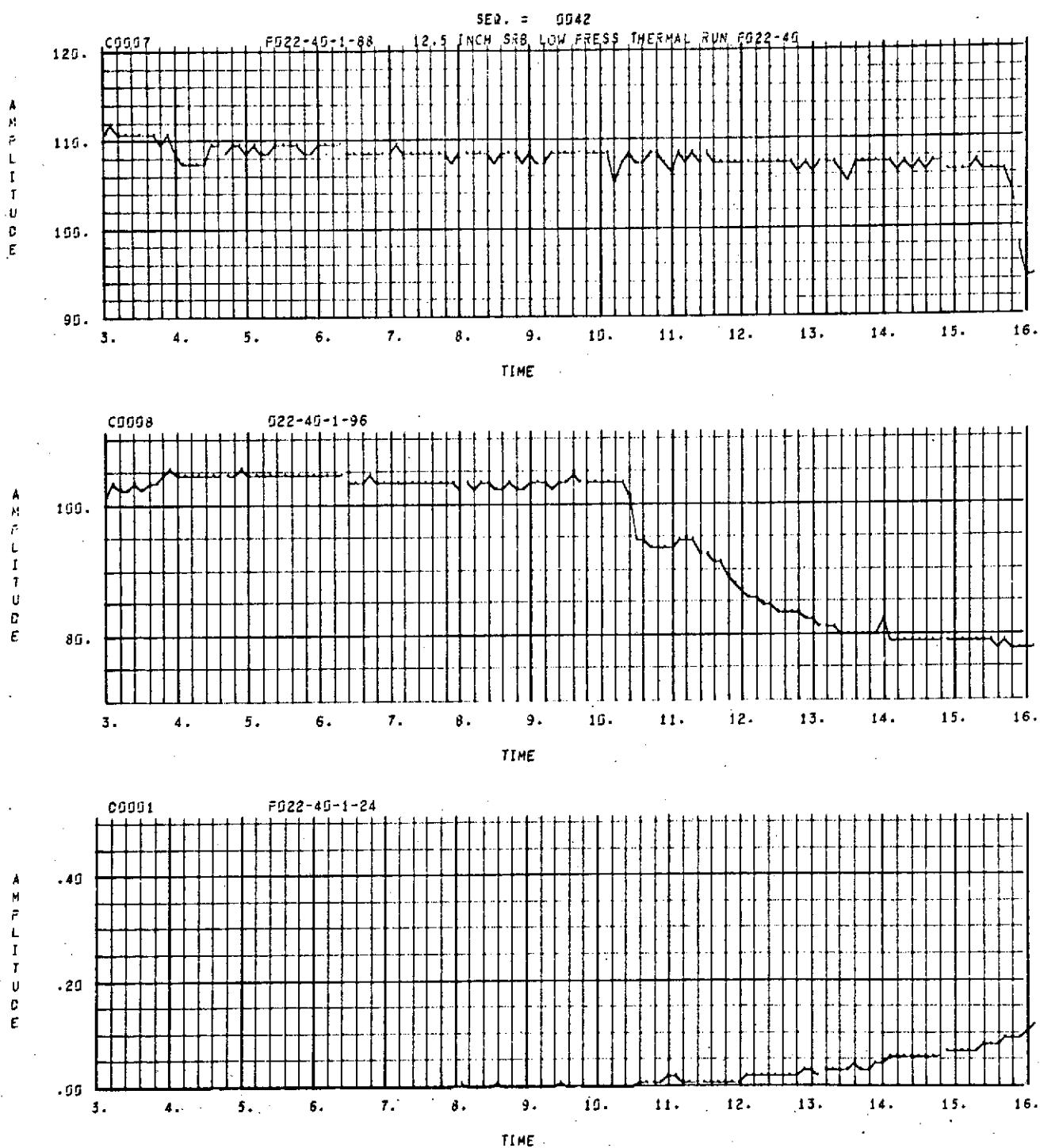


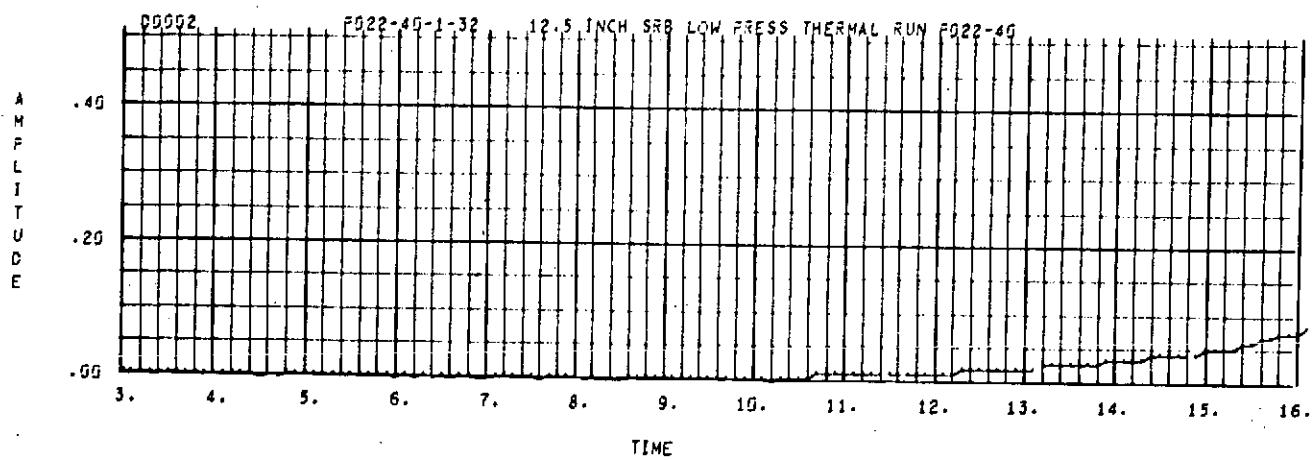
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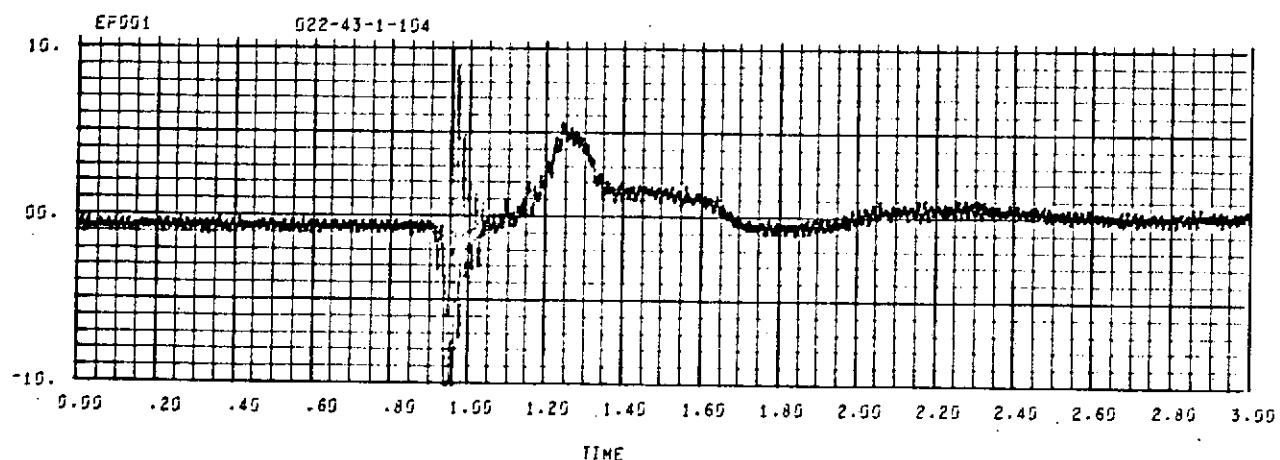
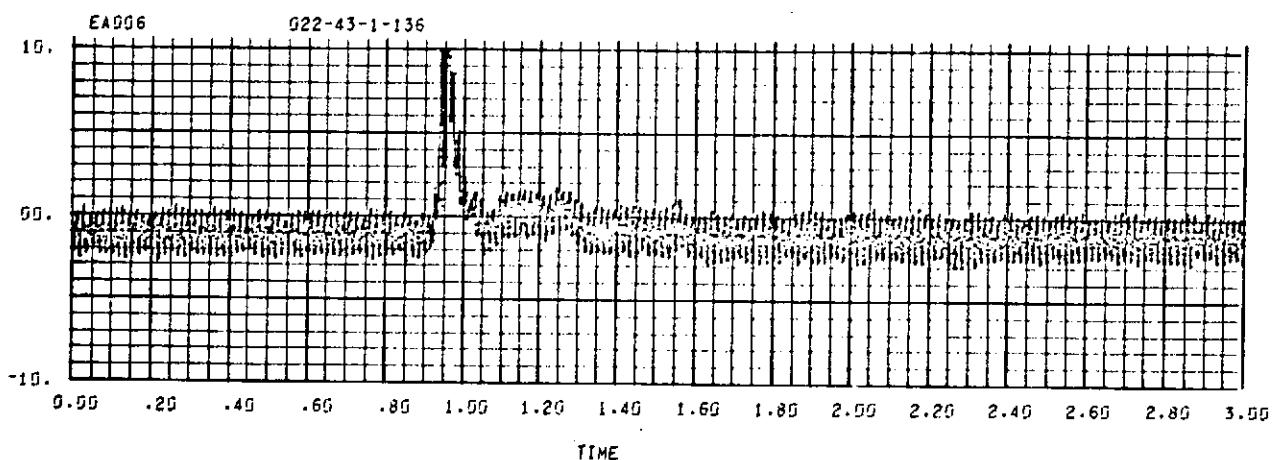
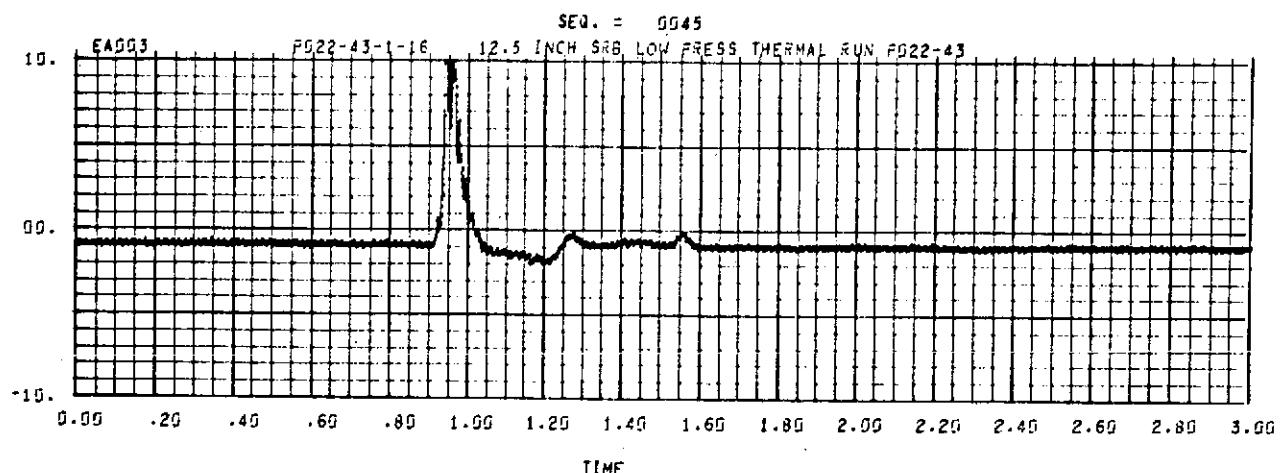


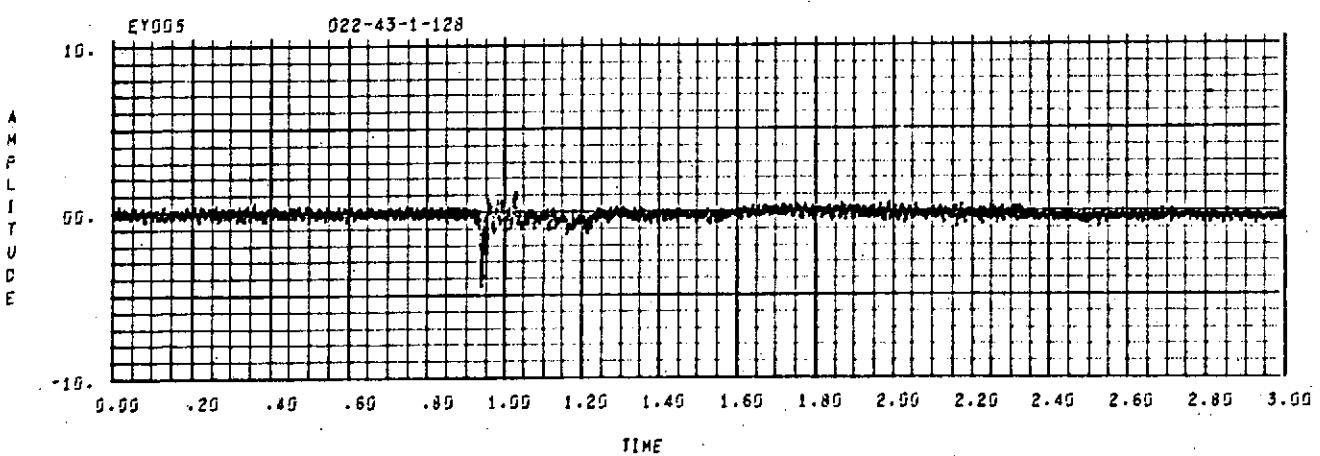
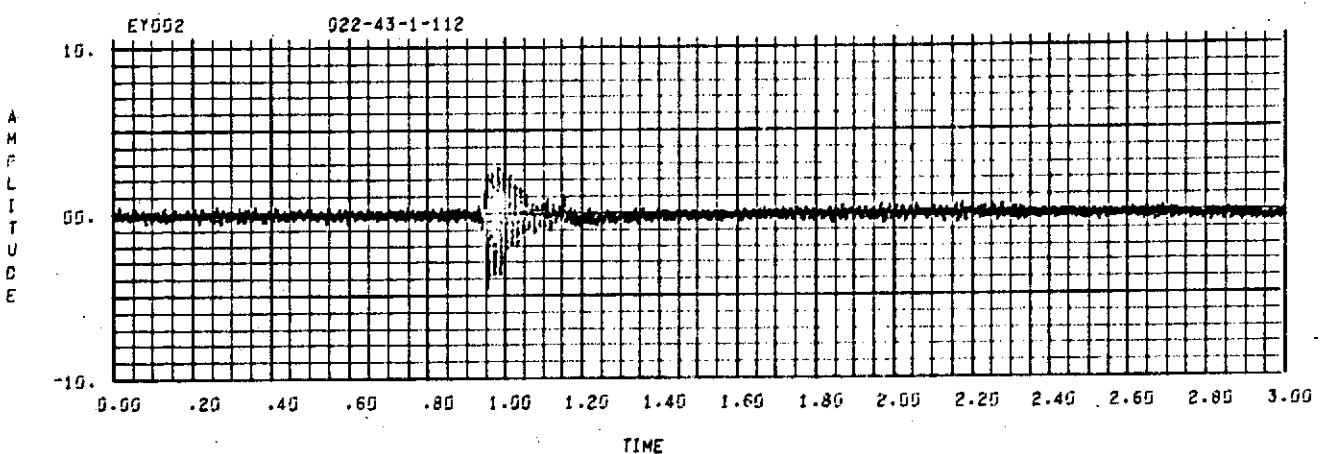
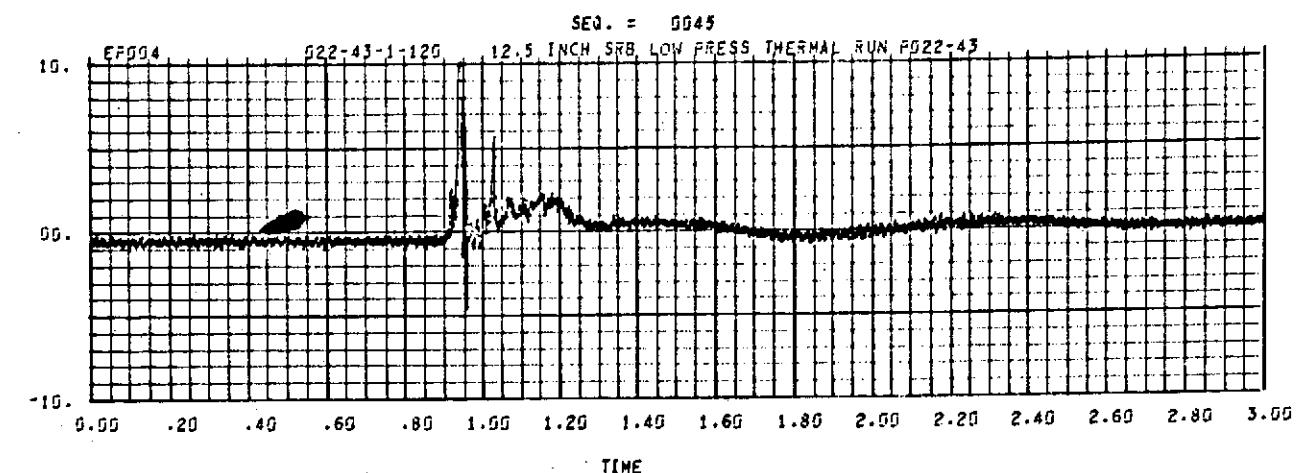


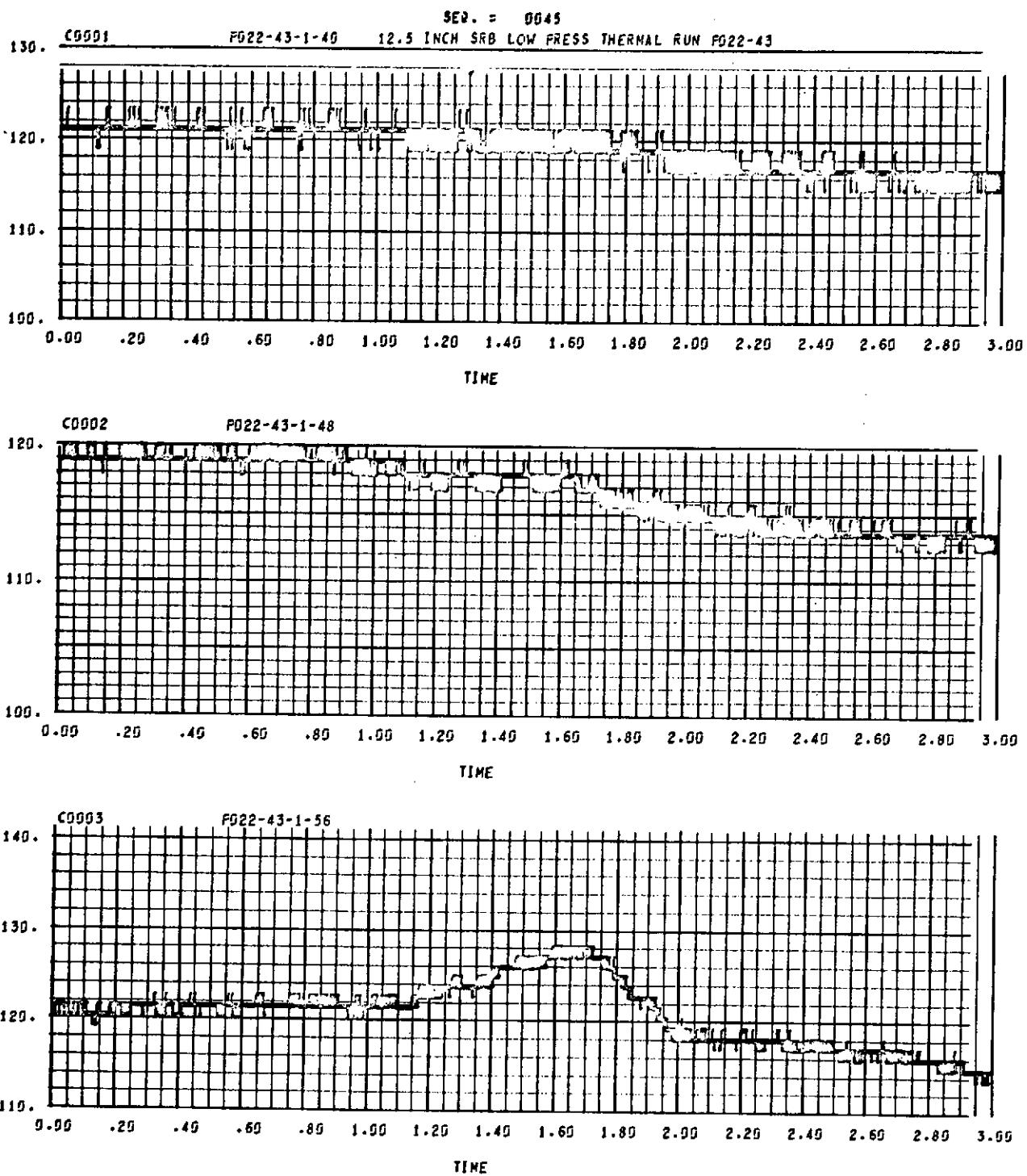


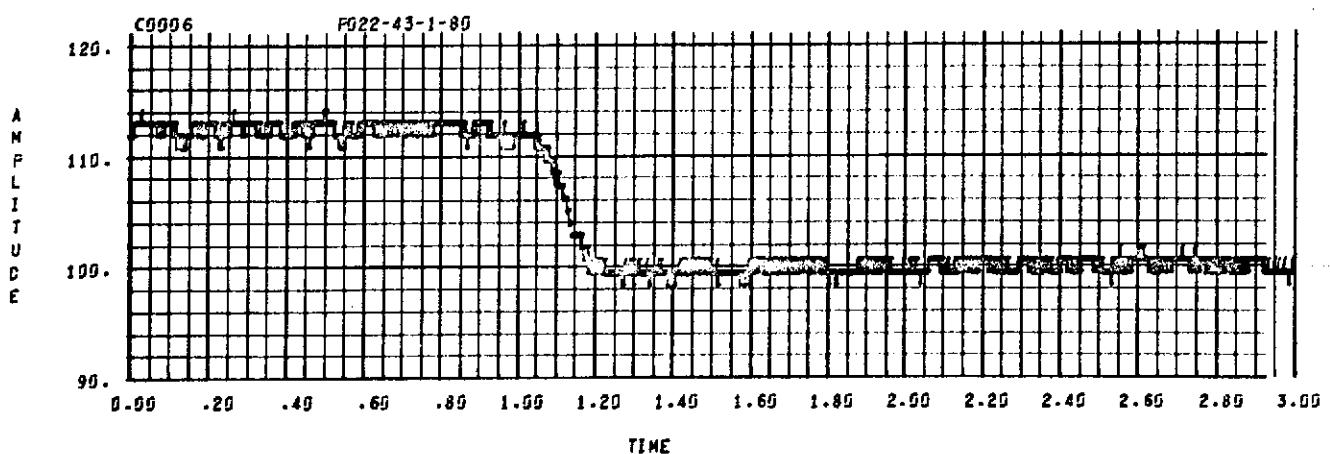
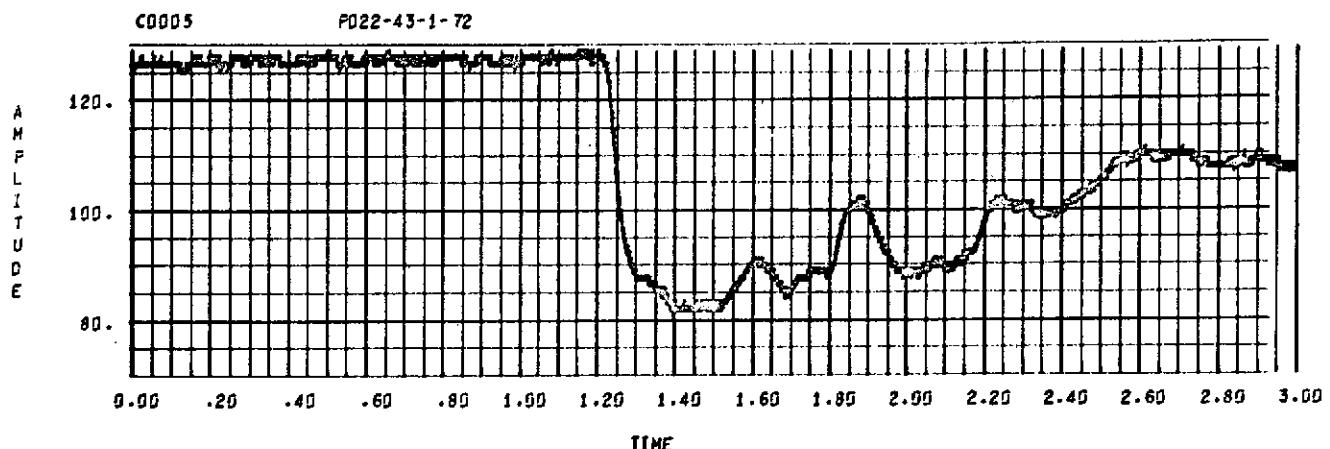
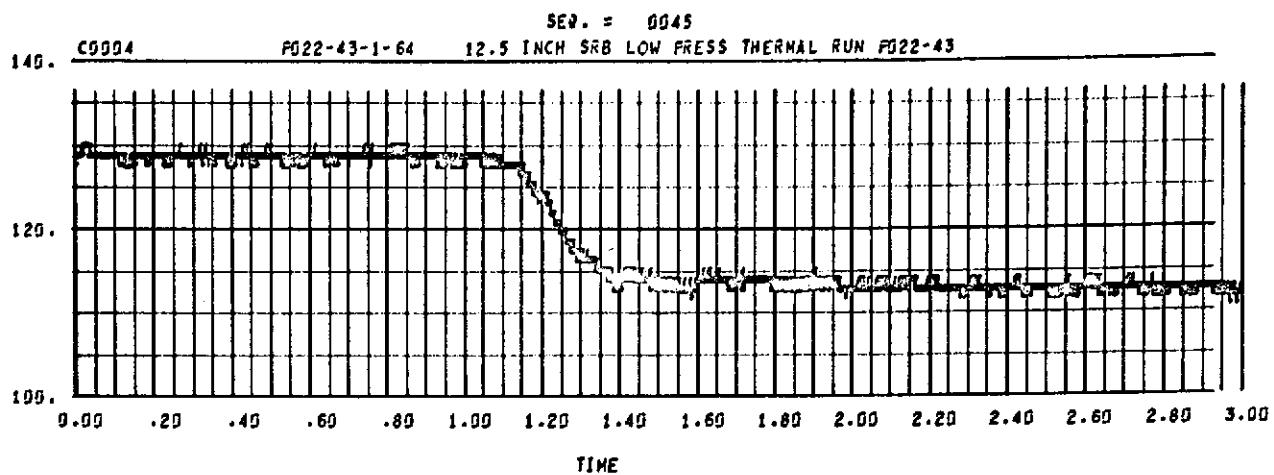
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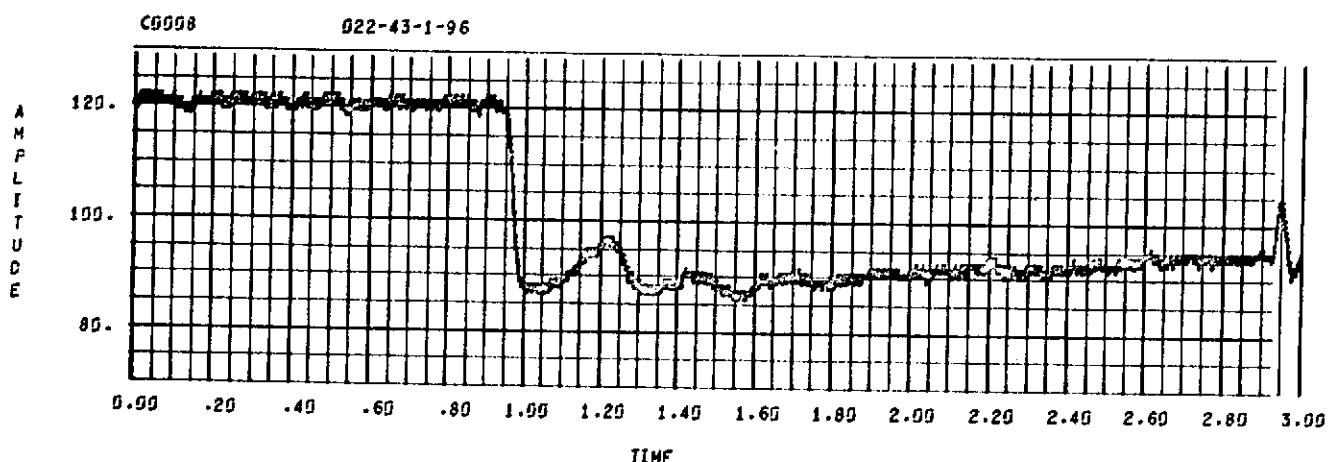
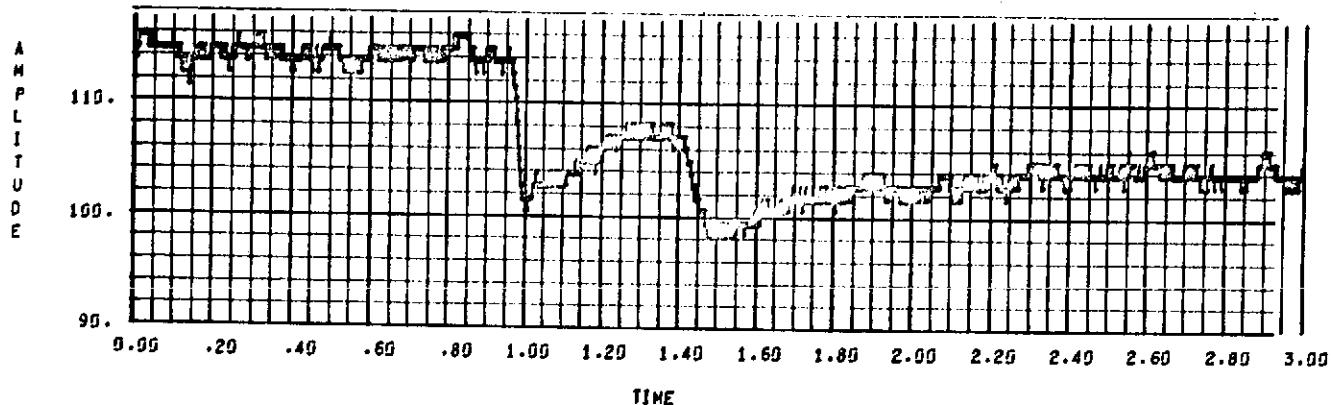




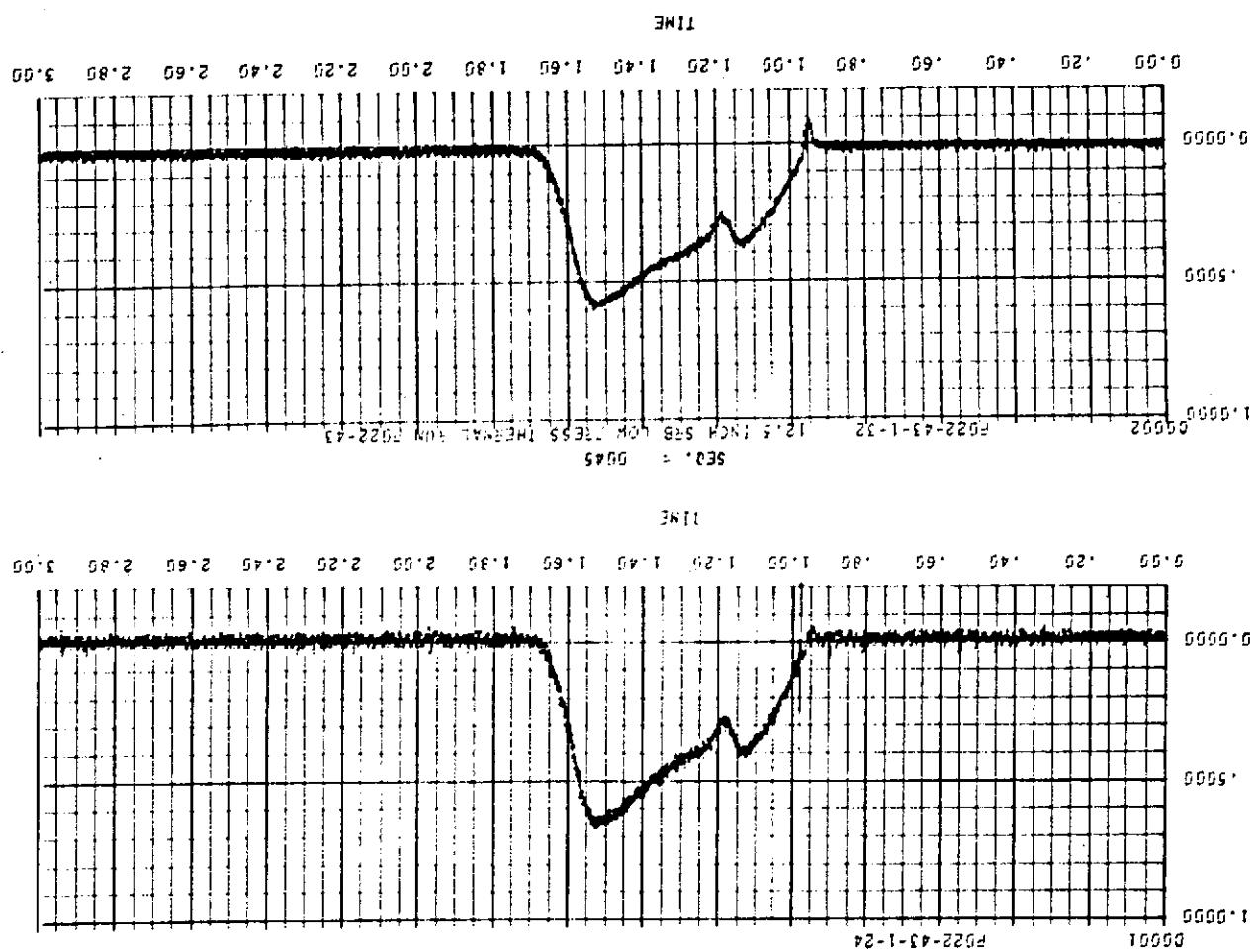




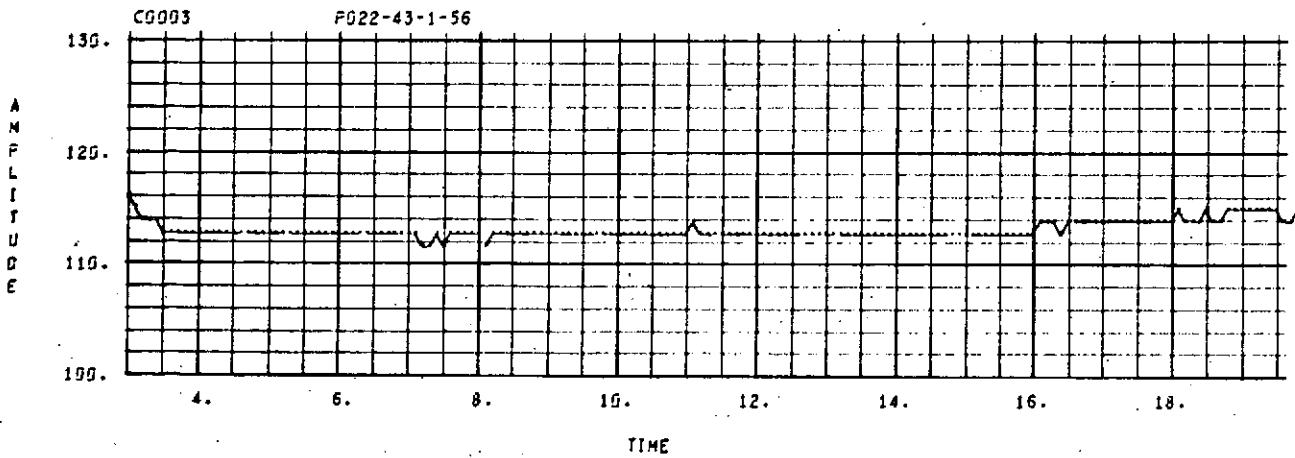
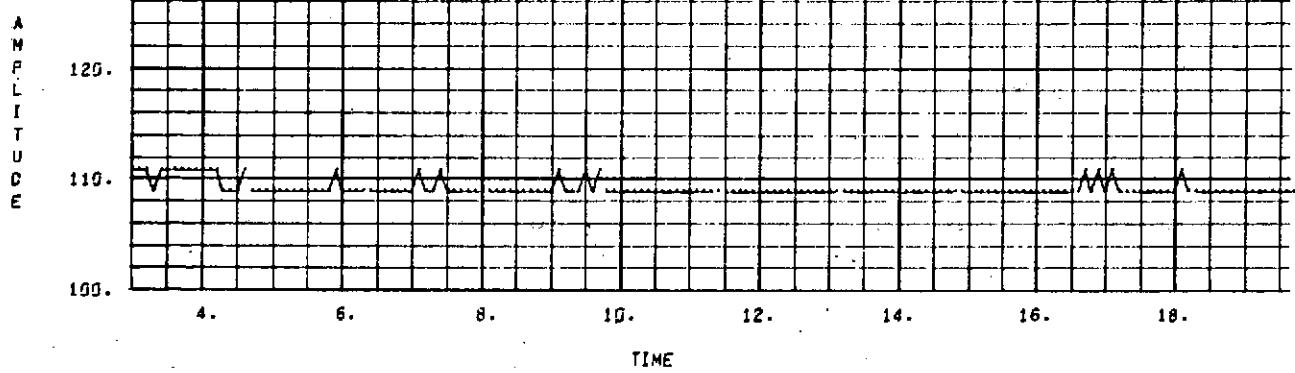
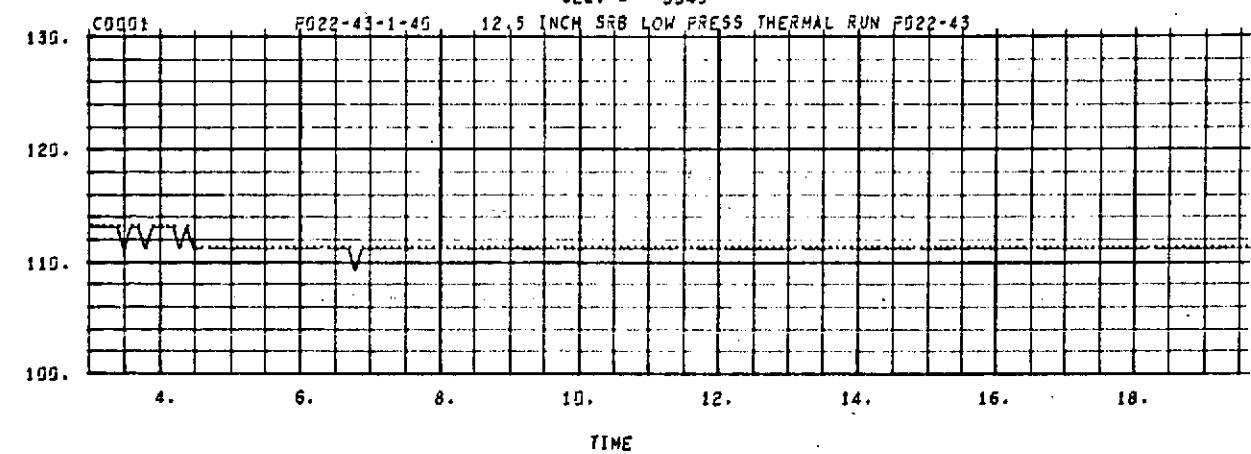
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120. C0007 P022-43-1-88 12.5 INCH SRB LOW PRESS THERMAL RUN P022-43

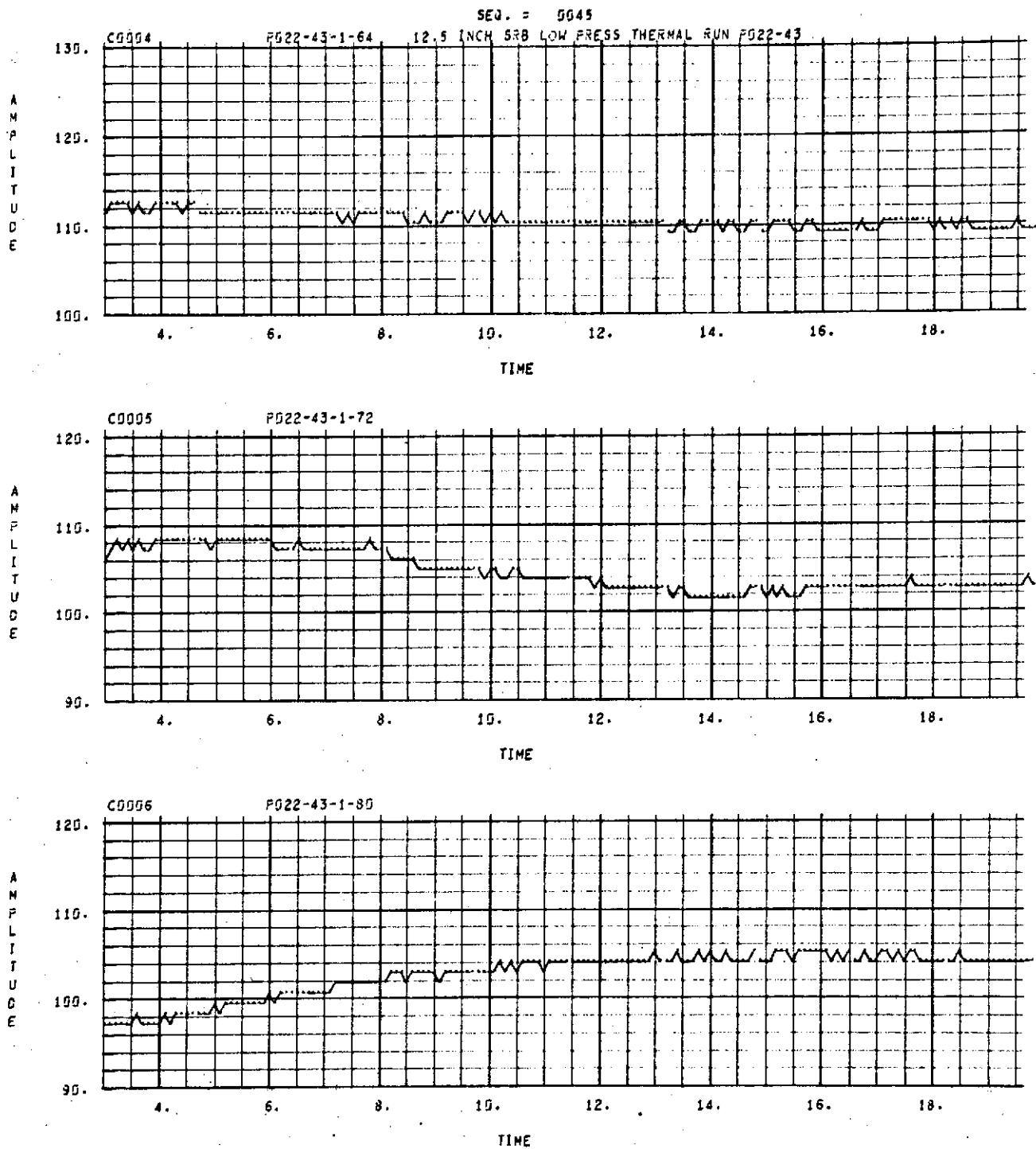


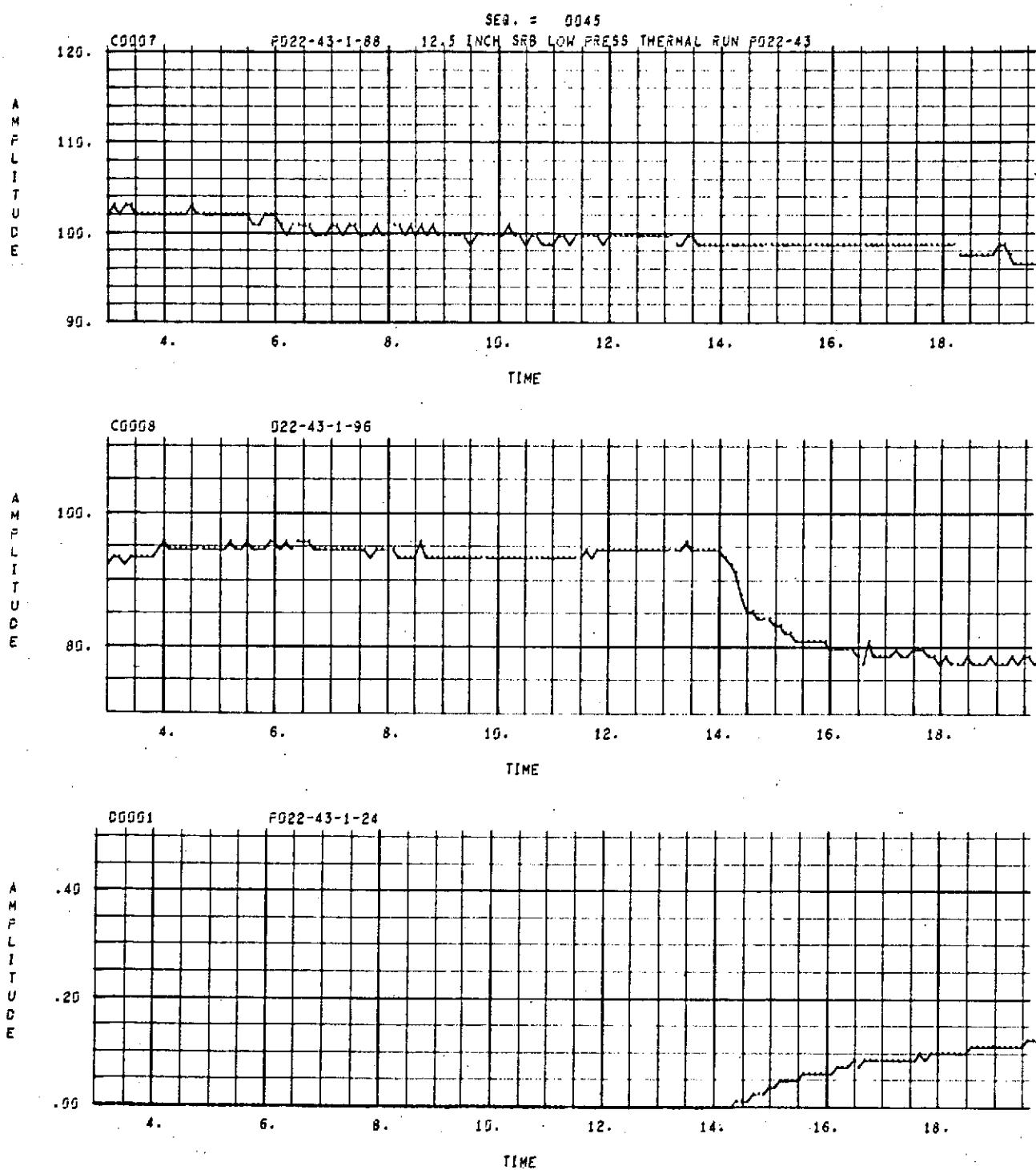
B-119

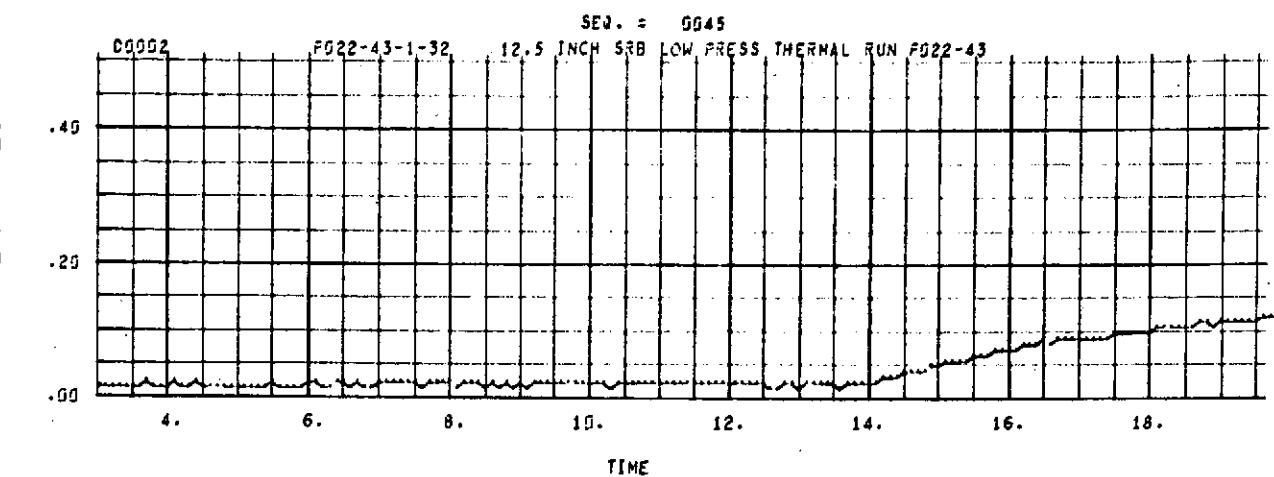


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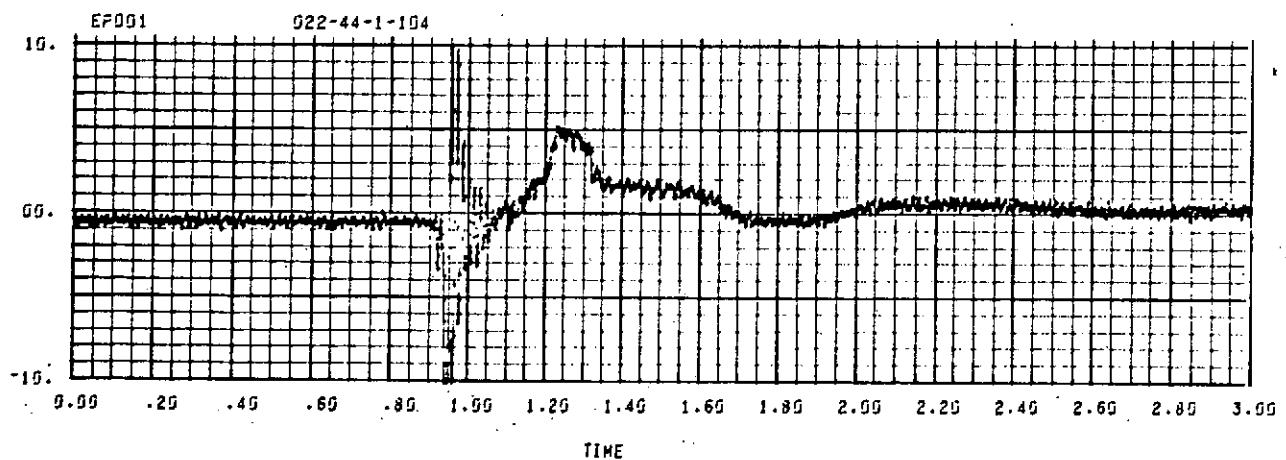
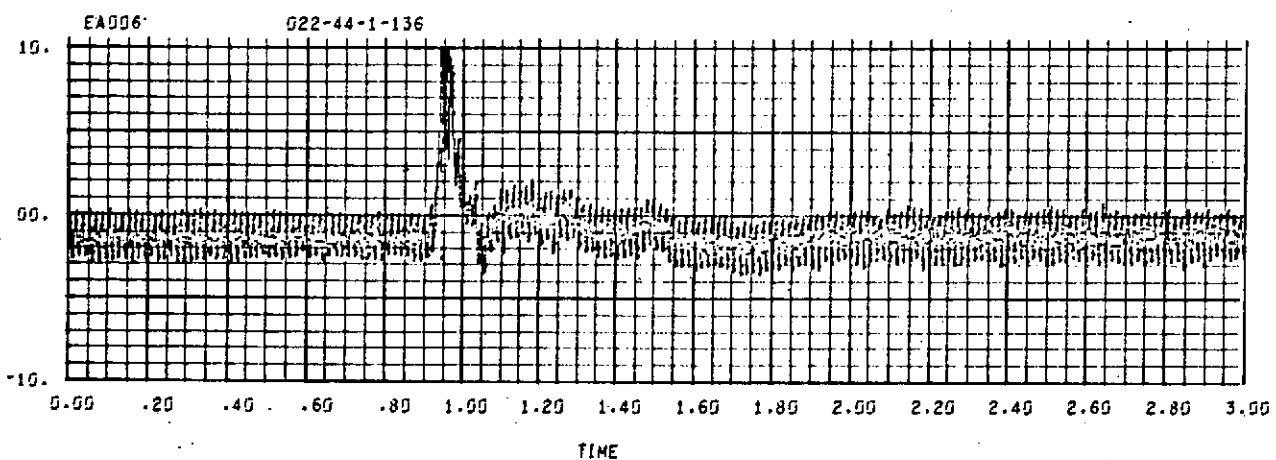
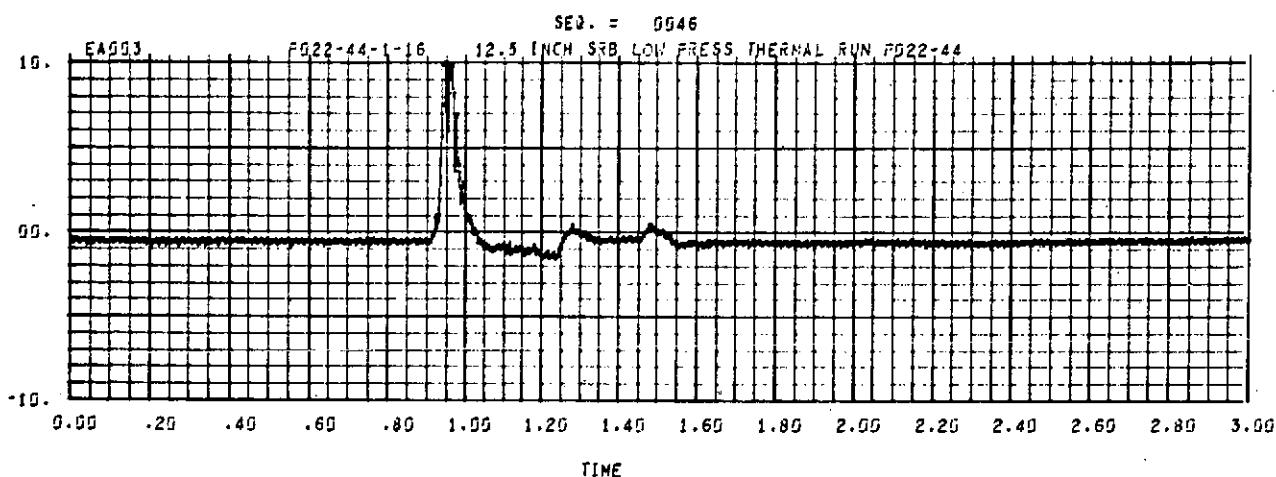


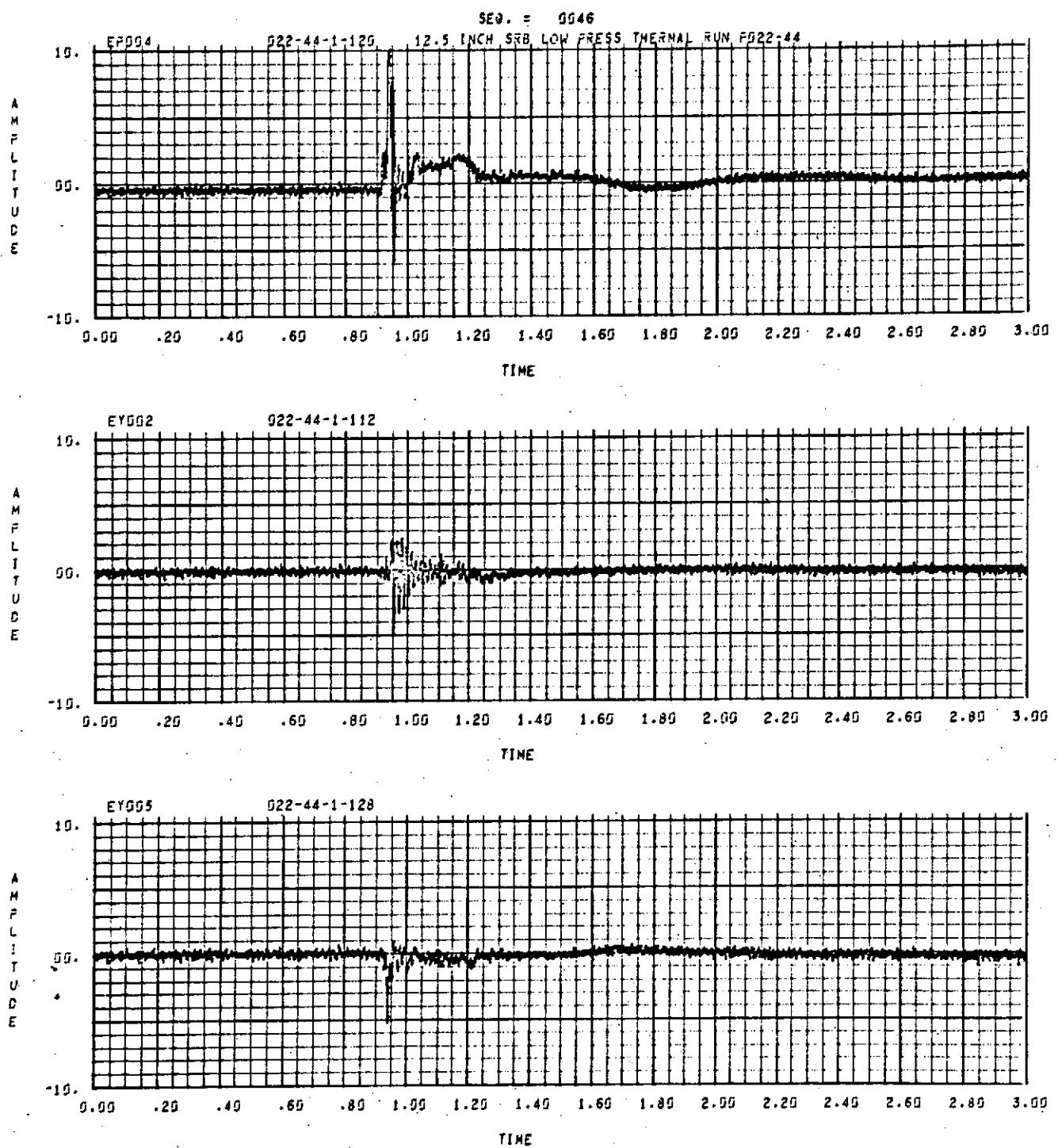


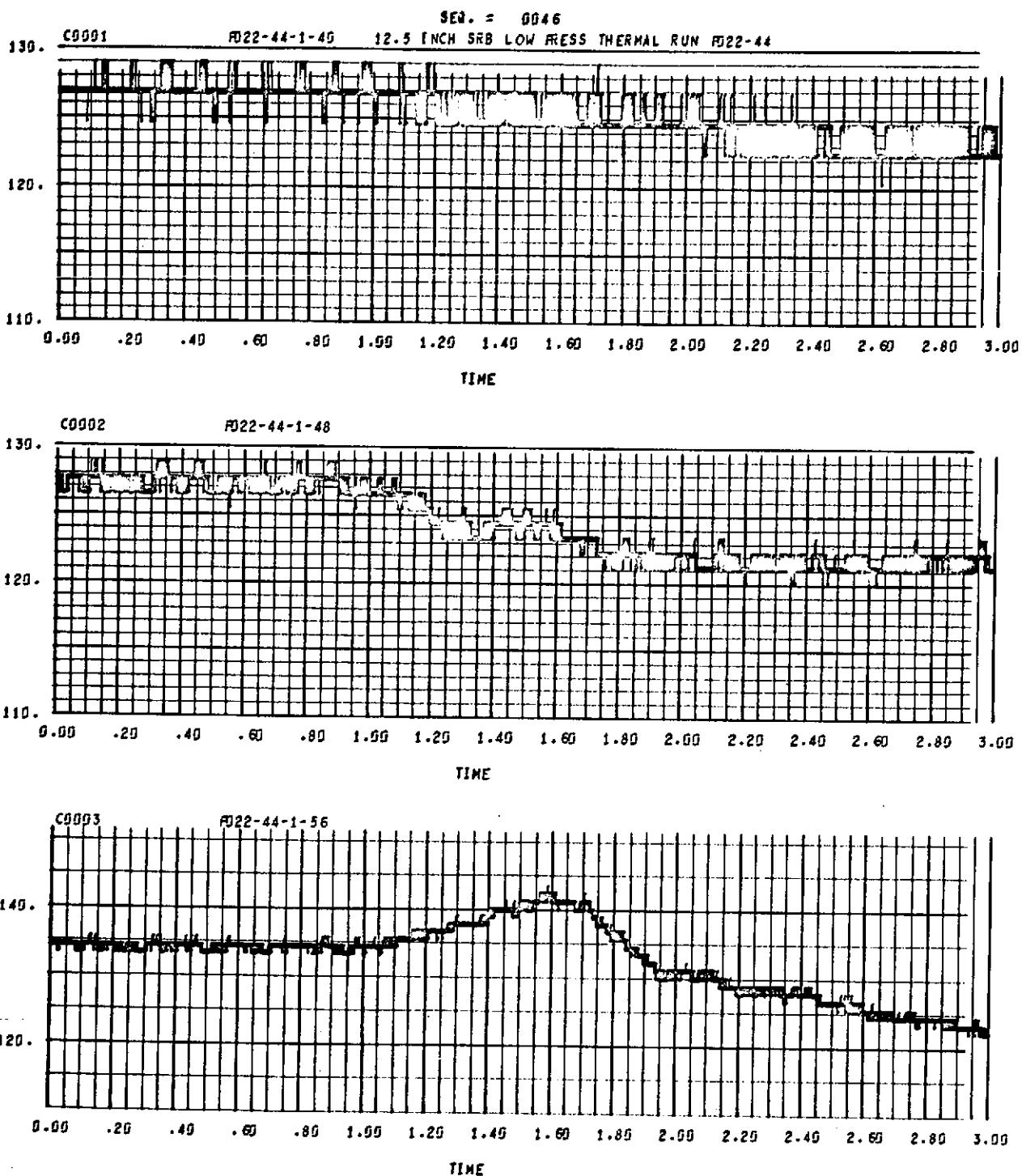




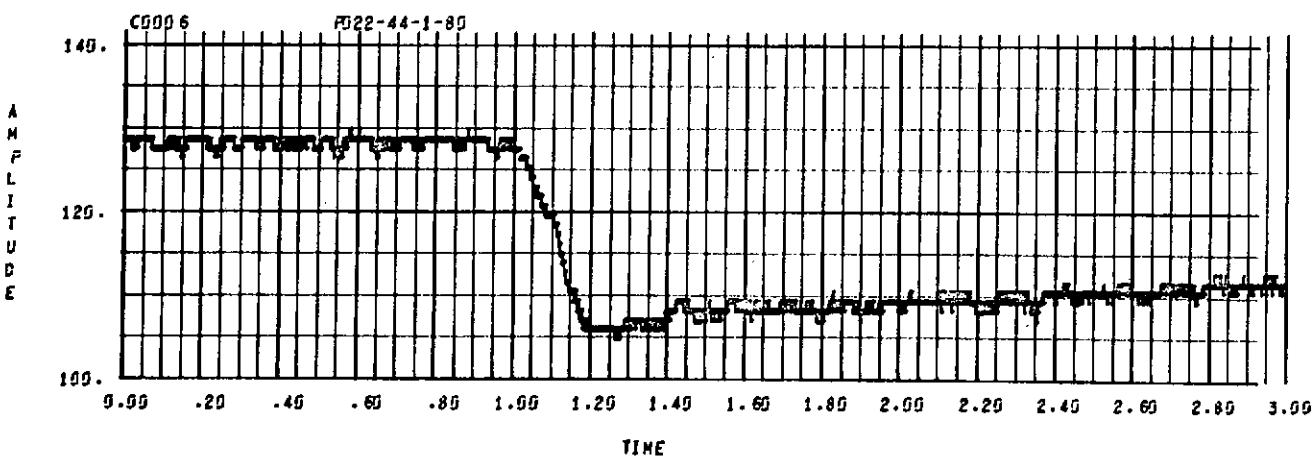
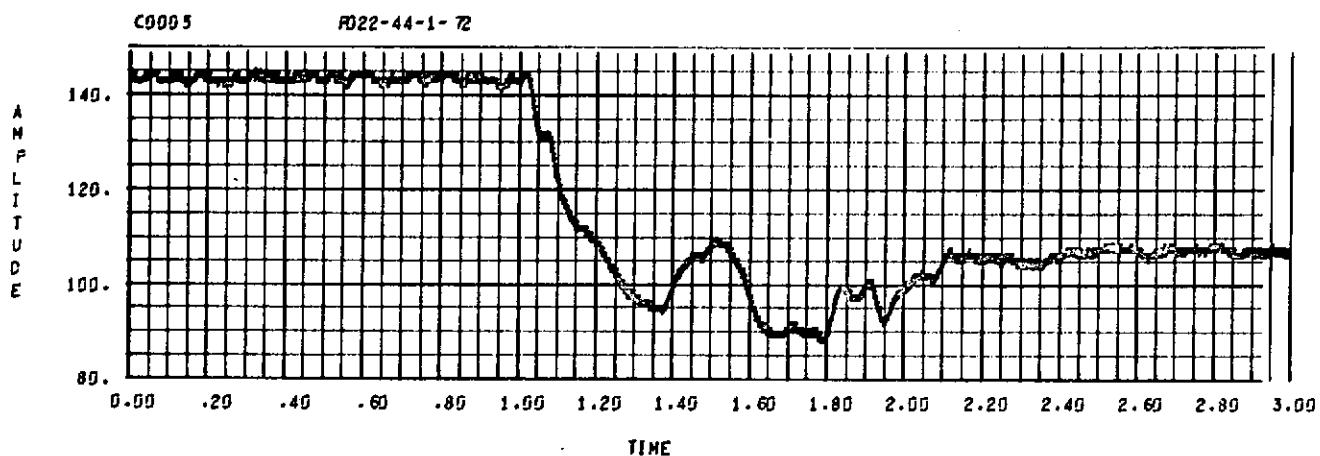
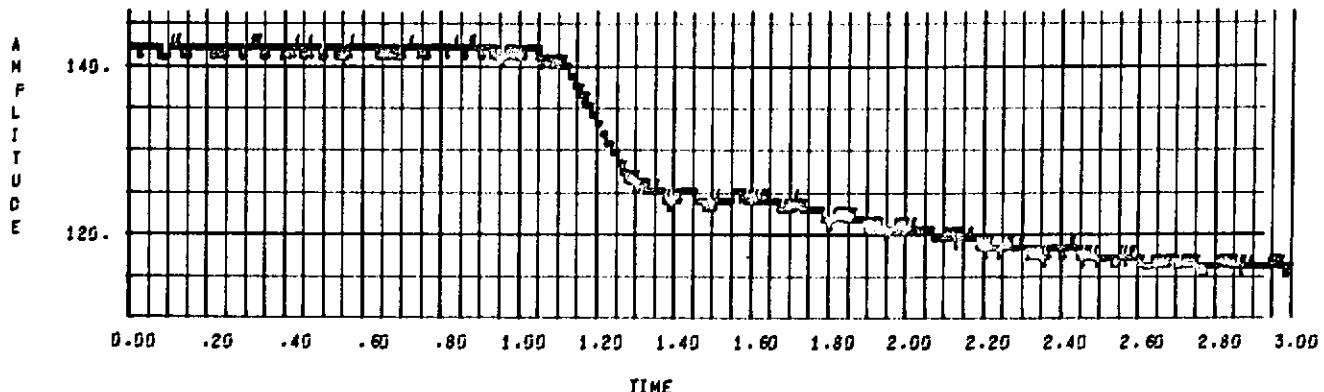
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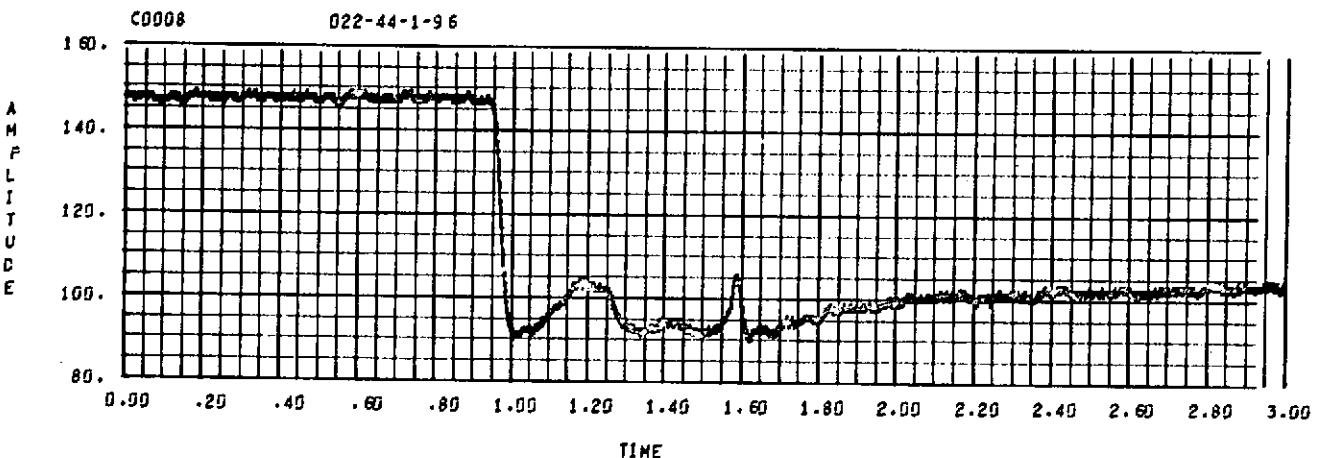
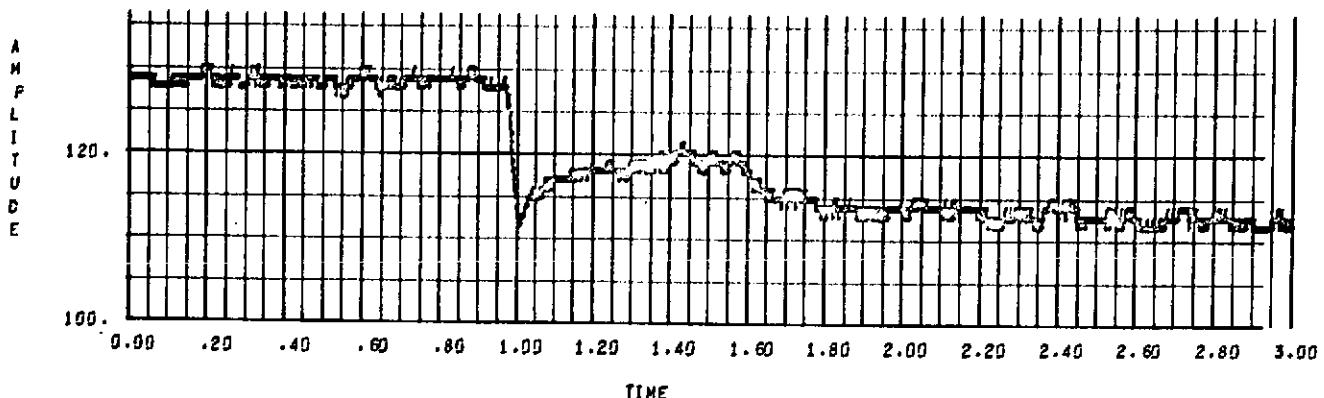


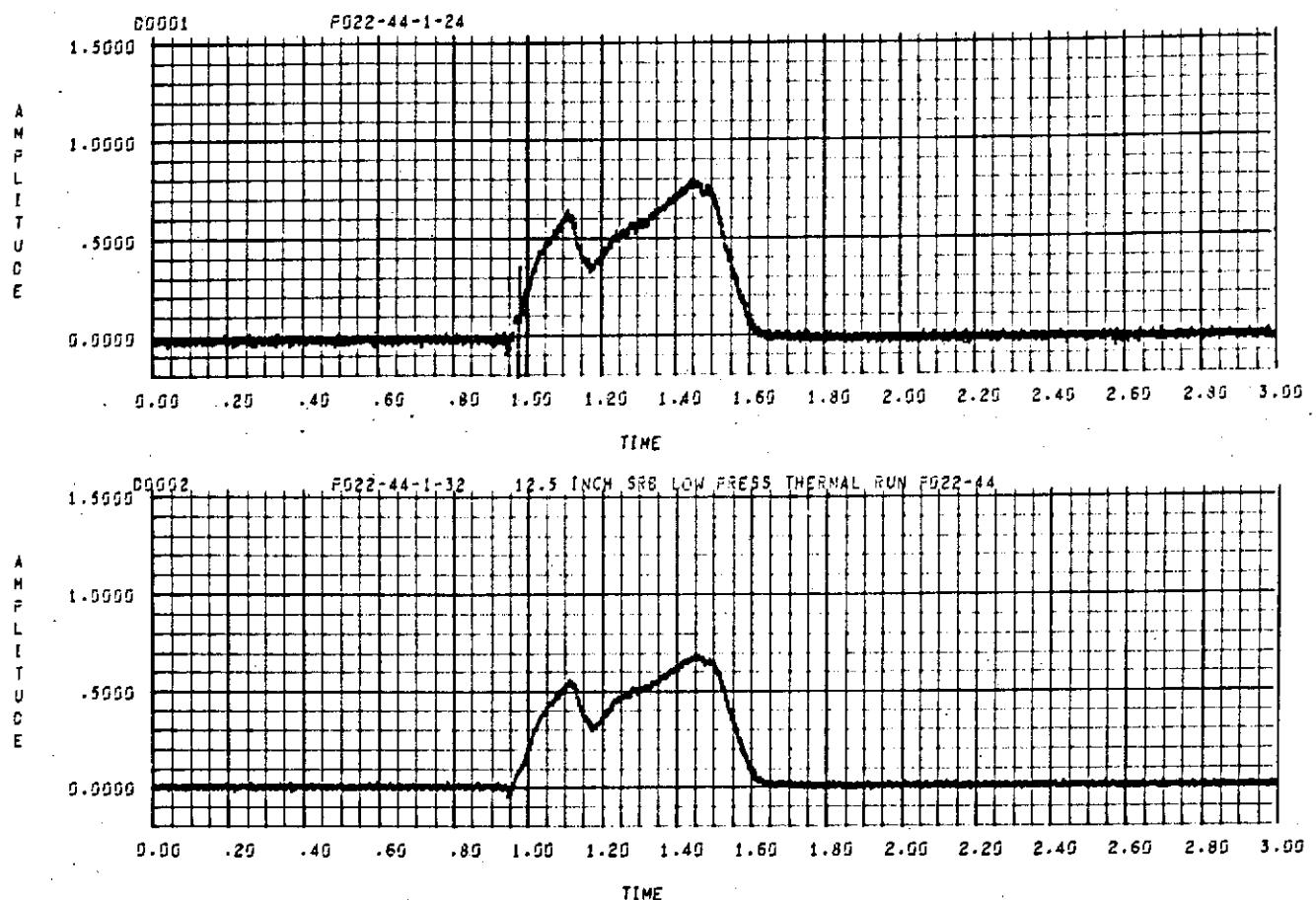


SEQ. # 0046
C0004 P022-44-1-64 12.5 INCH SRB LOW PRESS THERMAL RUN P022-44

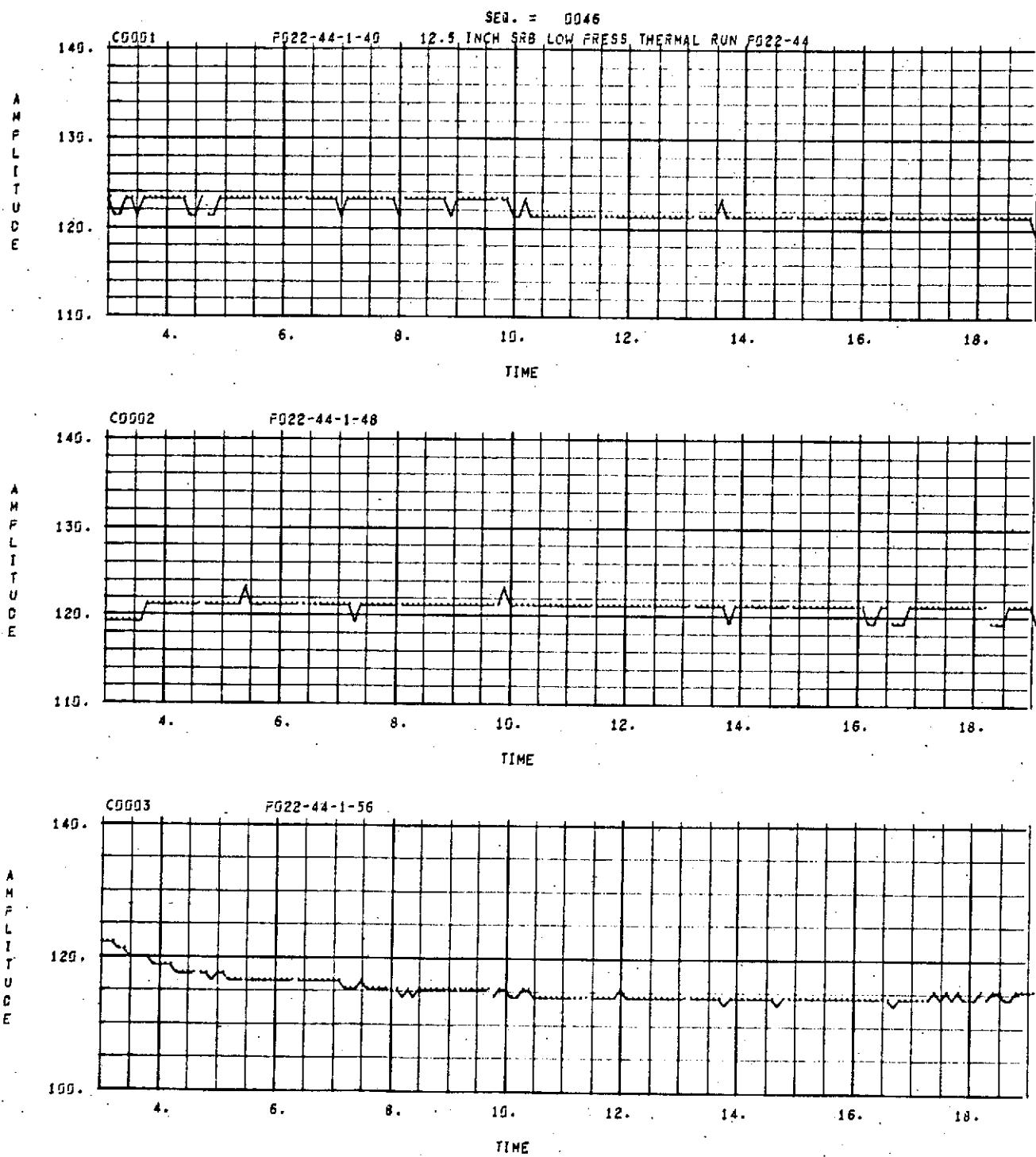


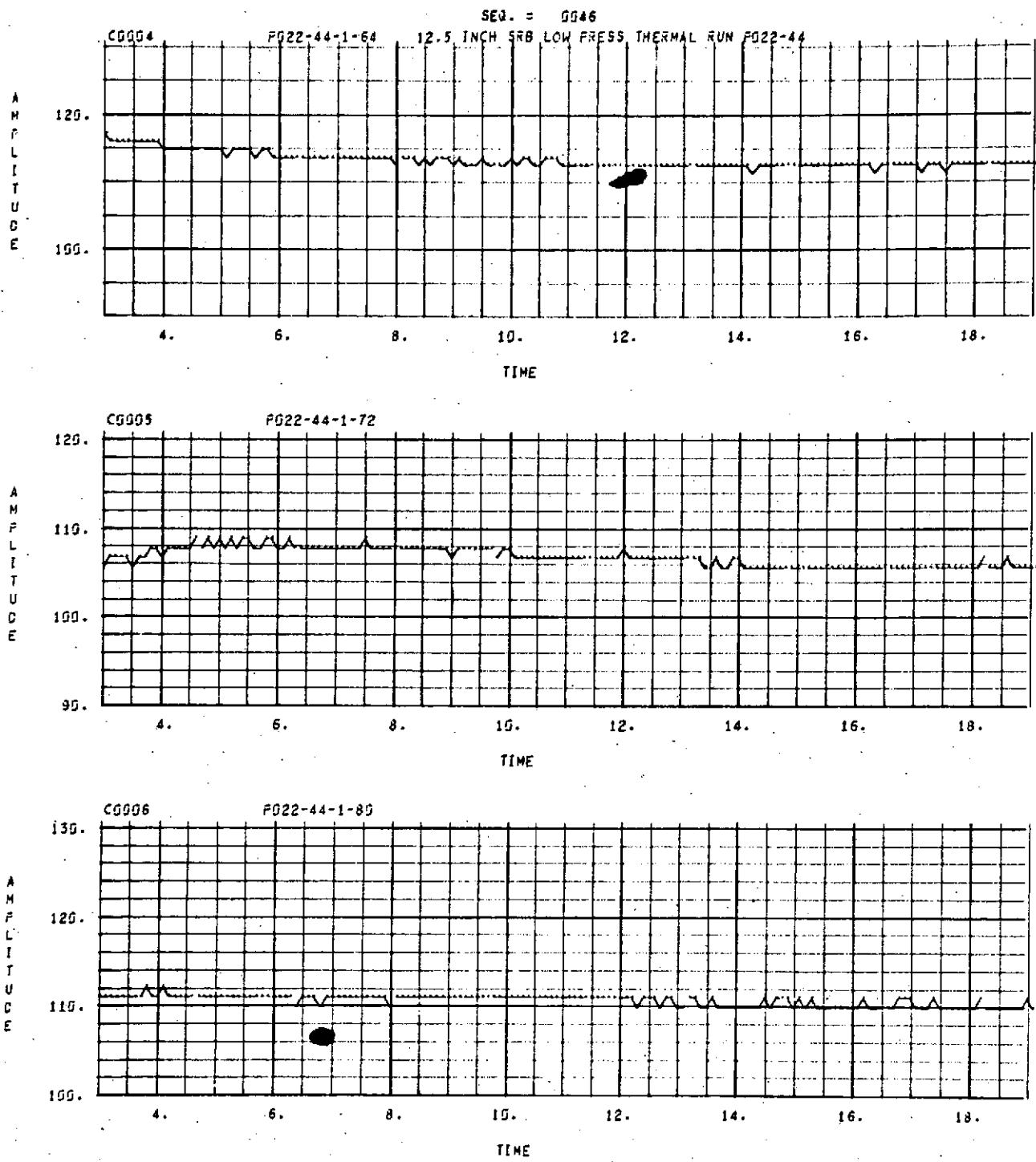
SEQ. = 0046
140. C0007 P022-44-1-88 12.5 INCH SR8 LOW PRESS THERMAL RUN P022-44

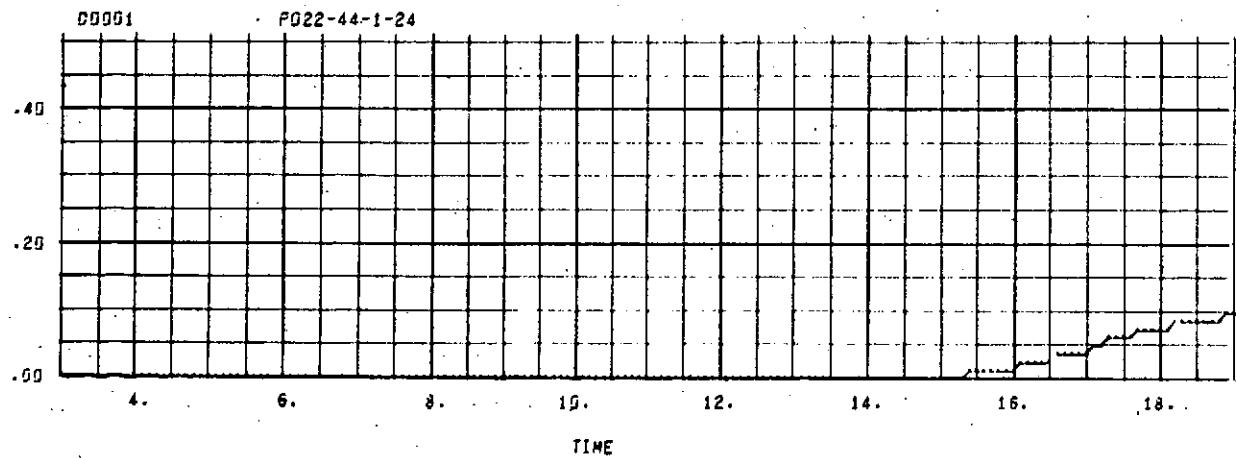
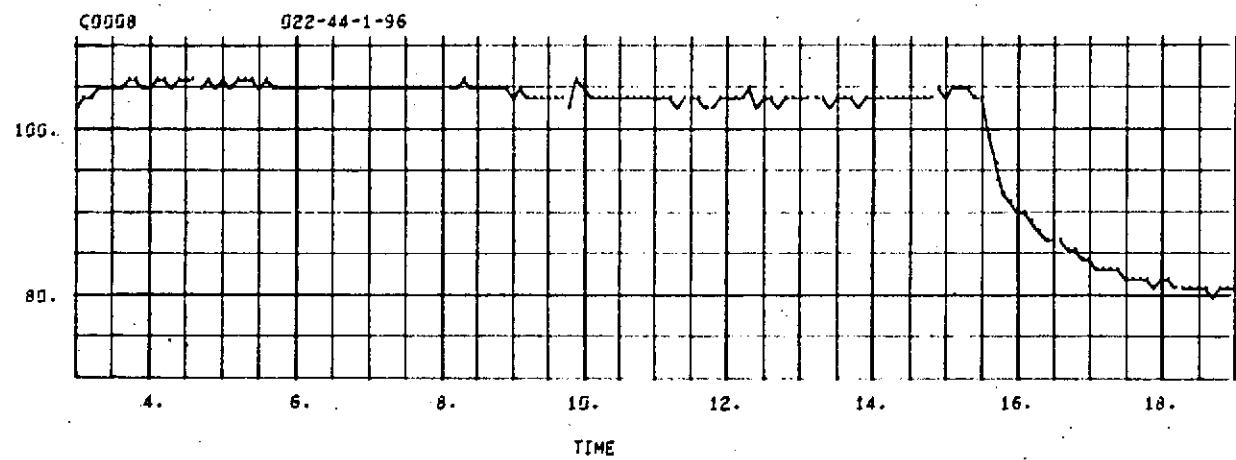
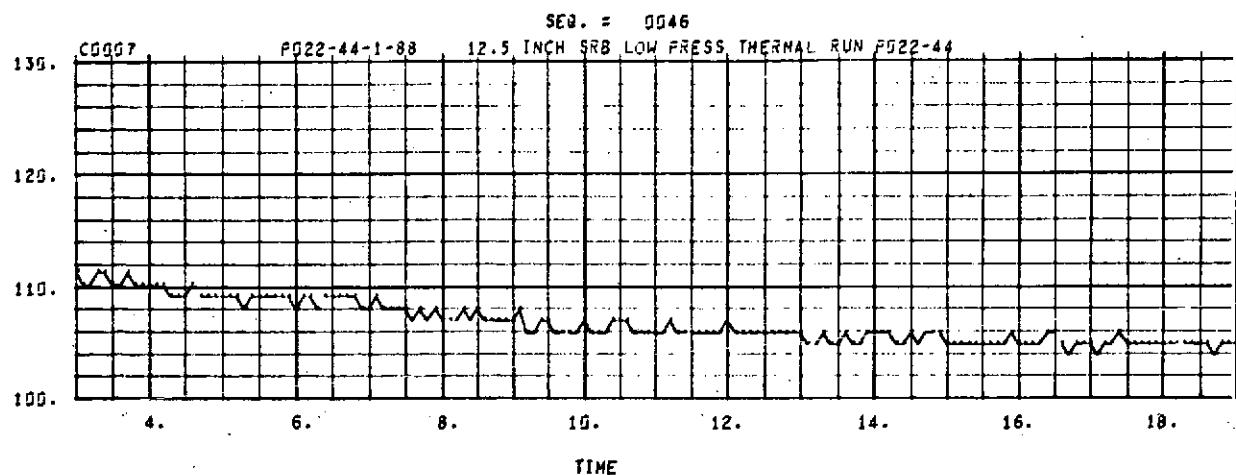


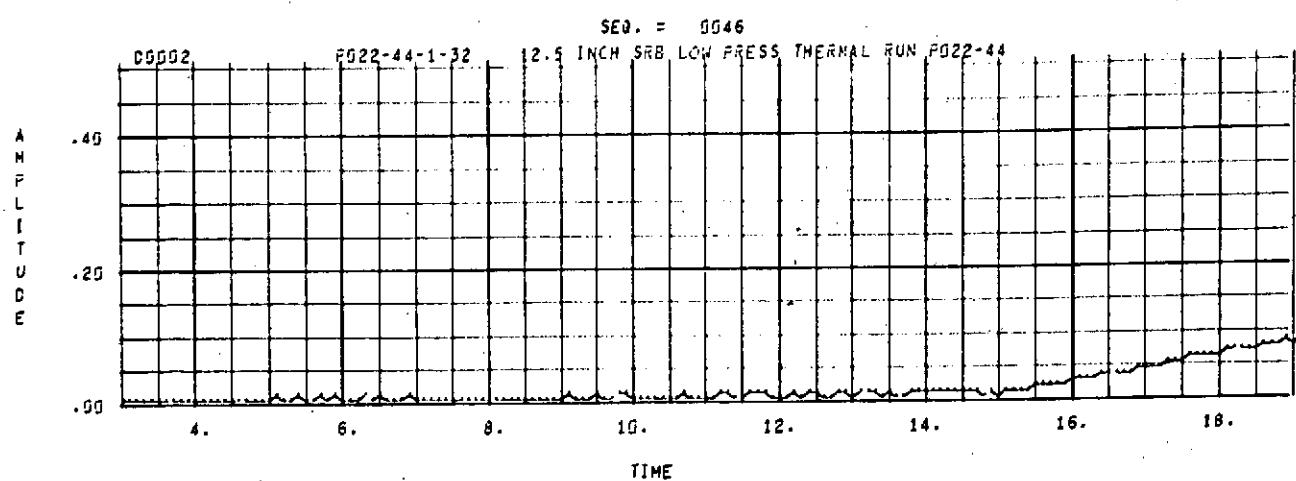


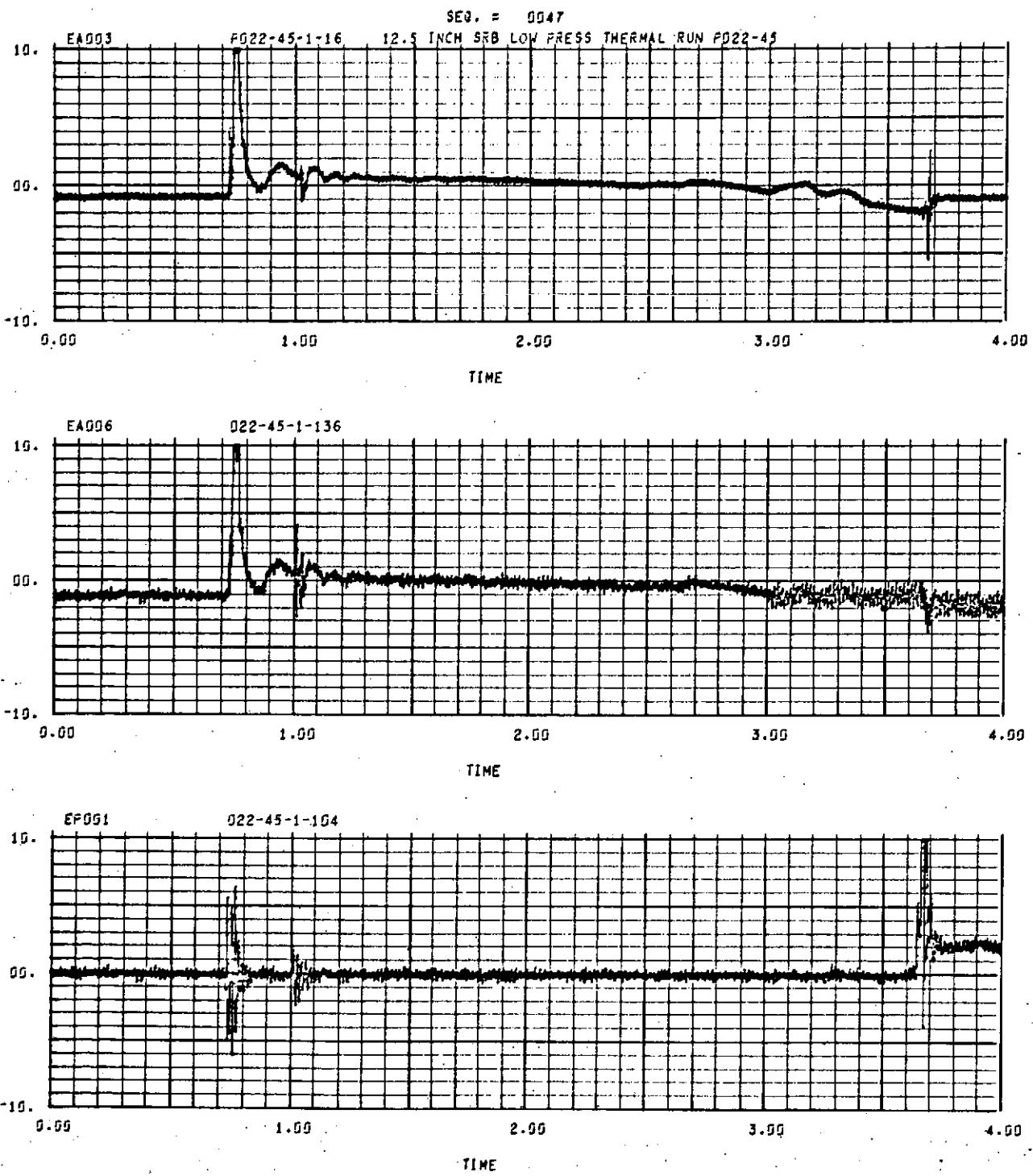
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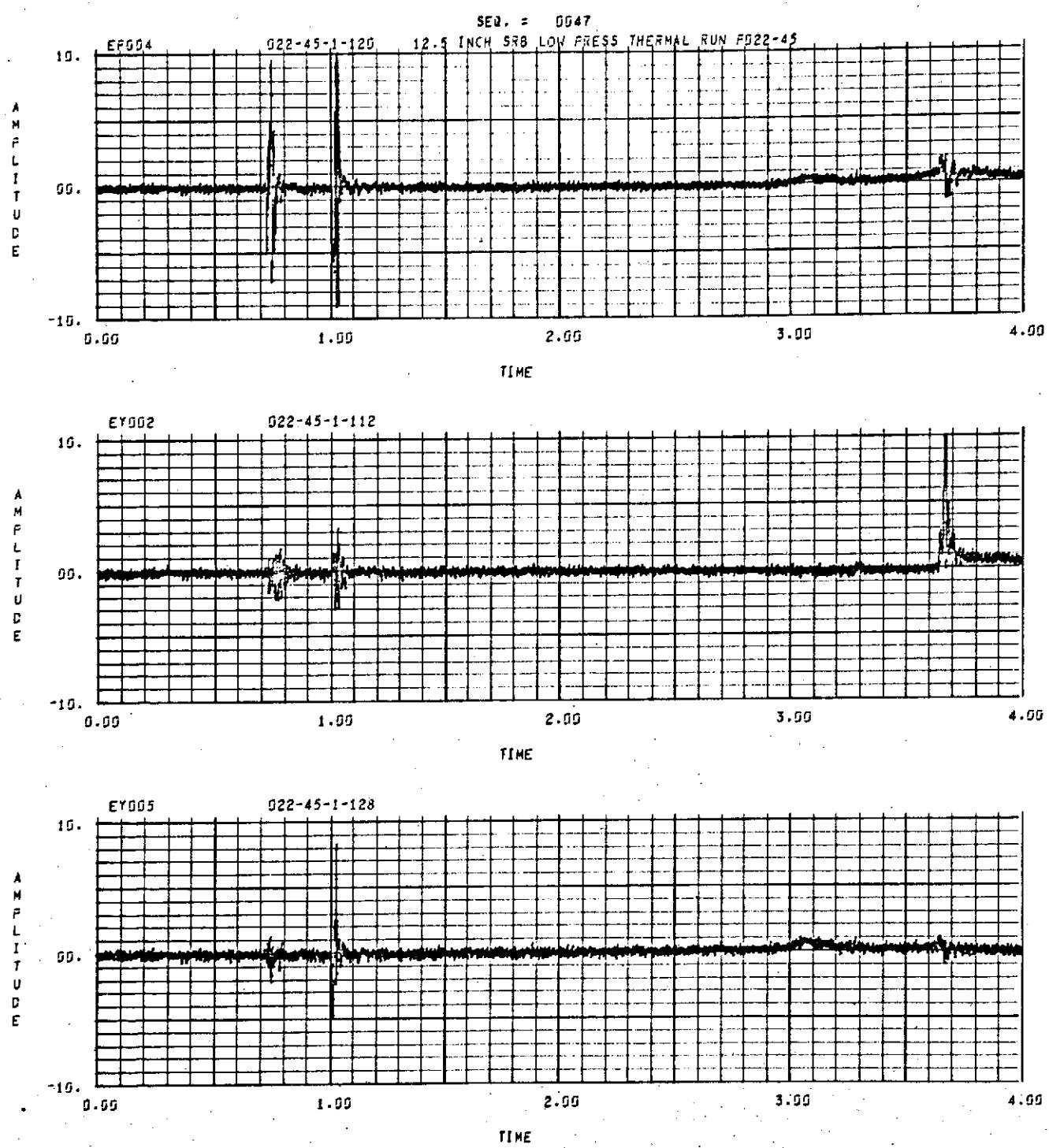


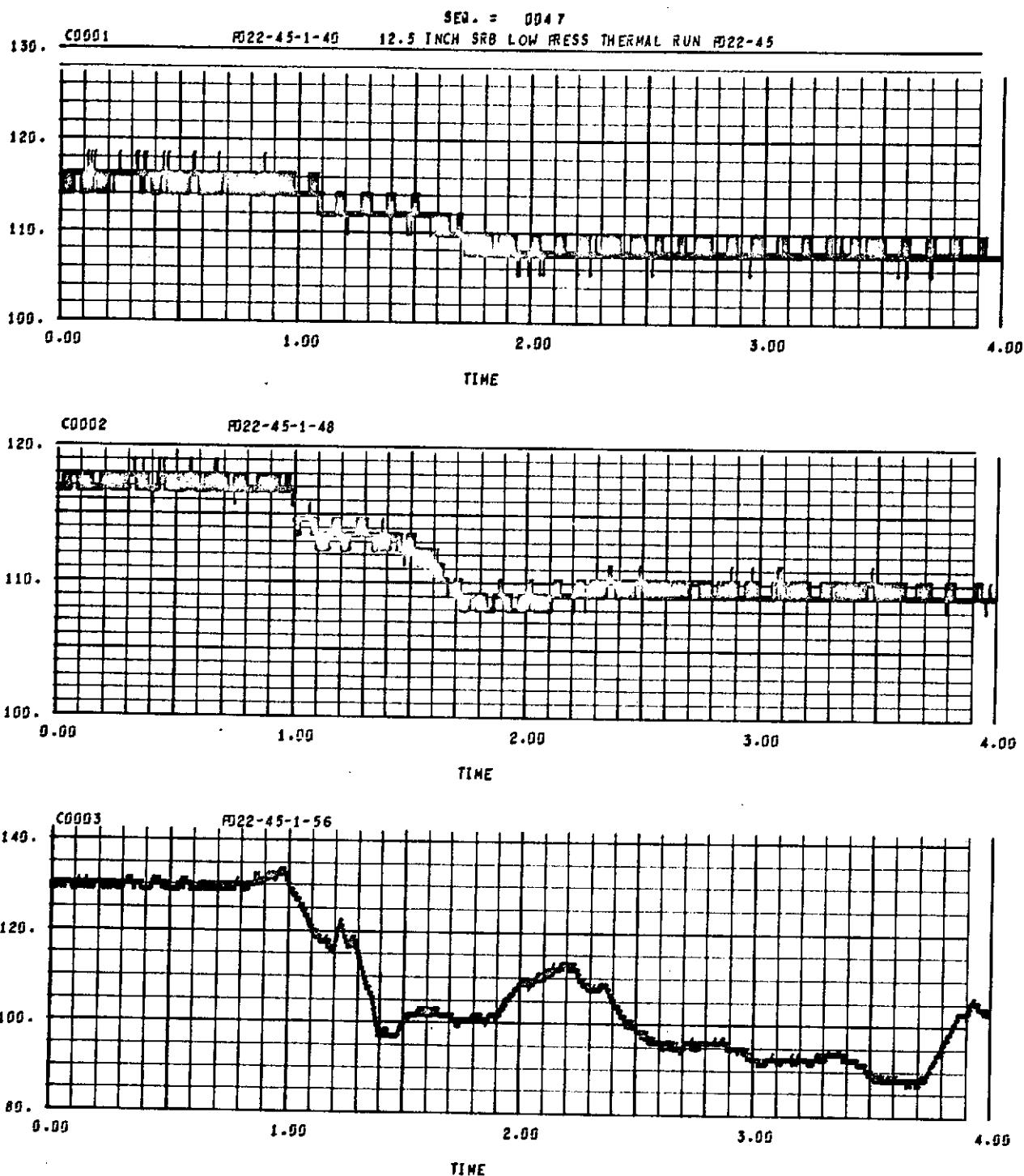












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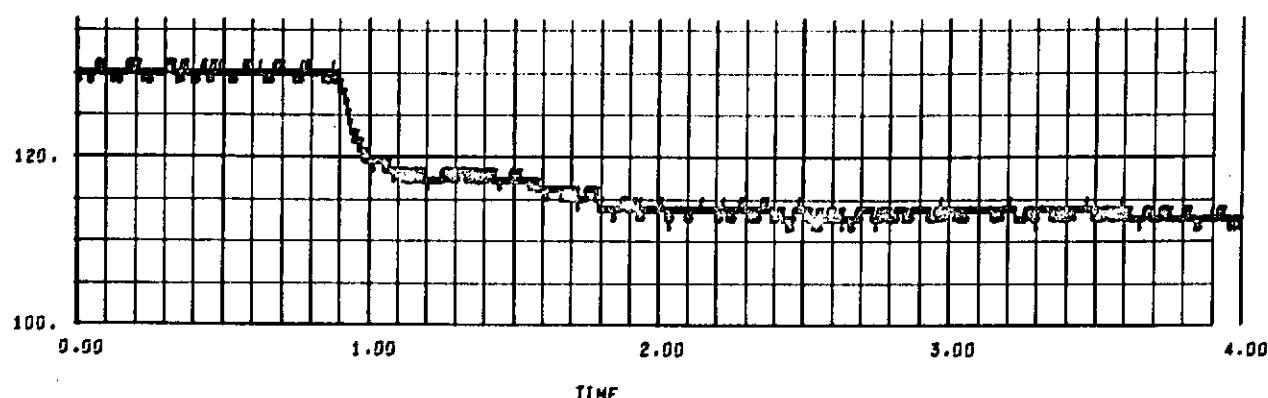
C0004

P022-45-1-64

12.5 INCH SRB LOW PRESS THERMAL RUN P022-45

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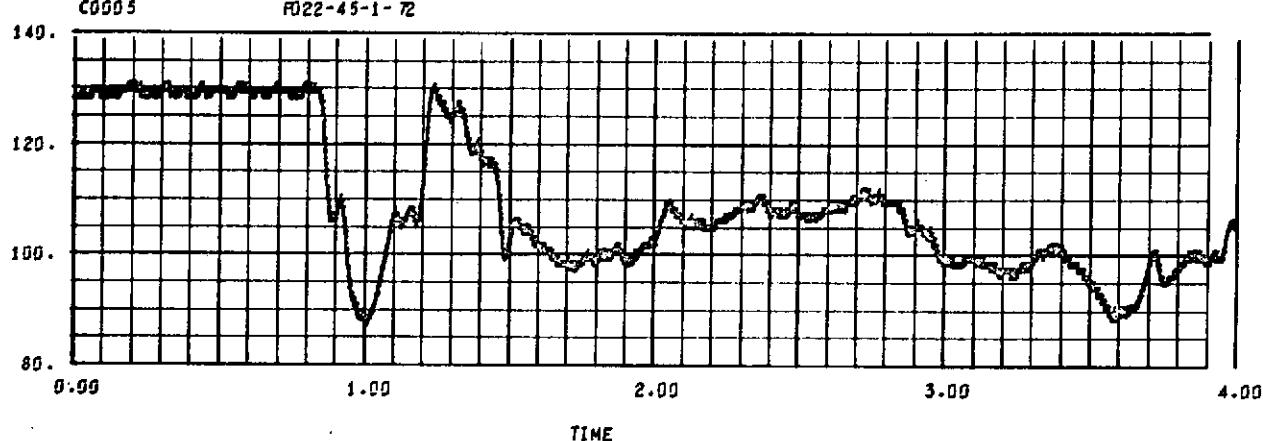
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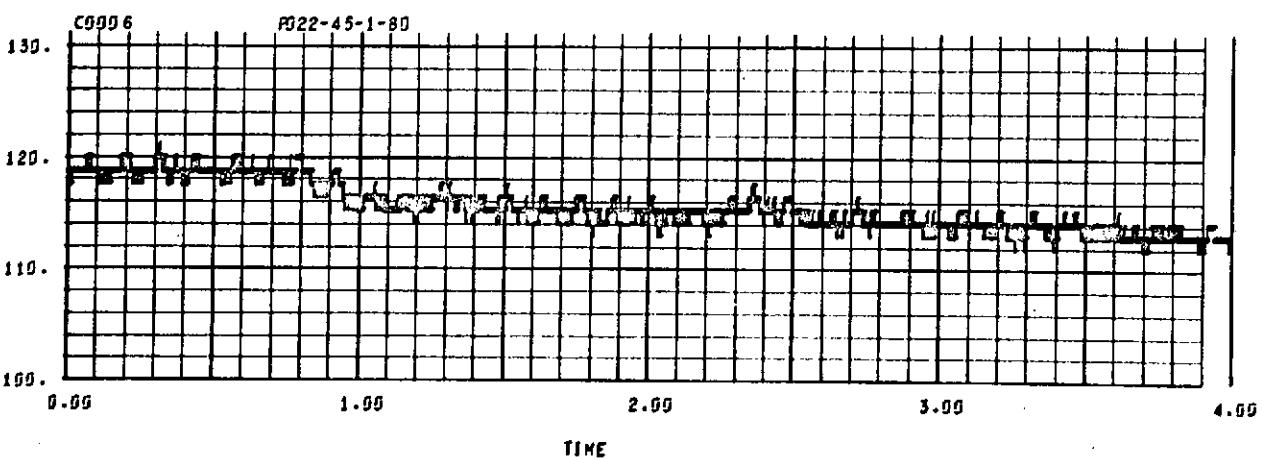
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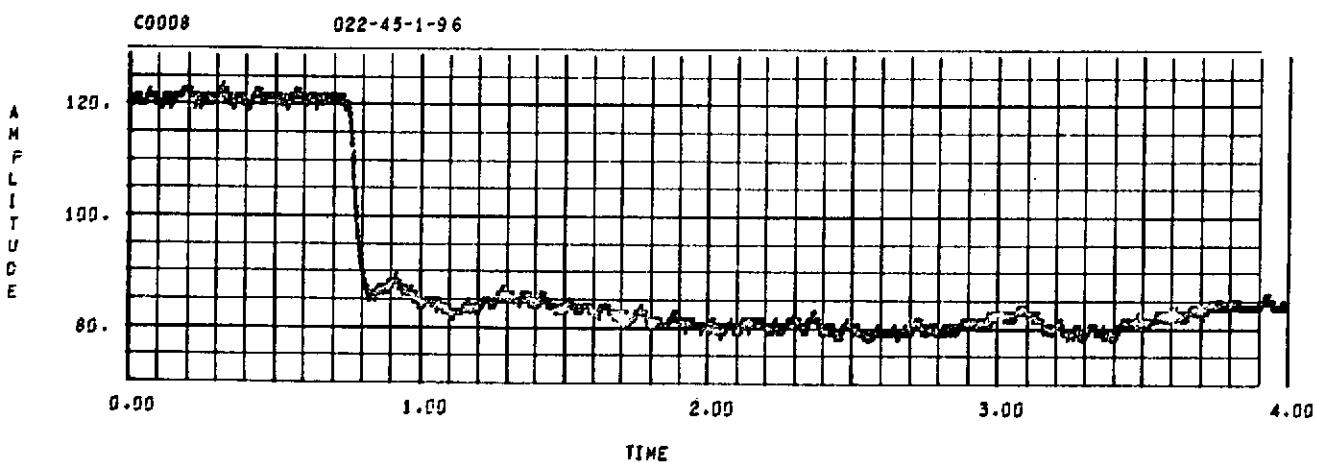
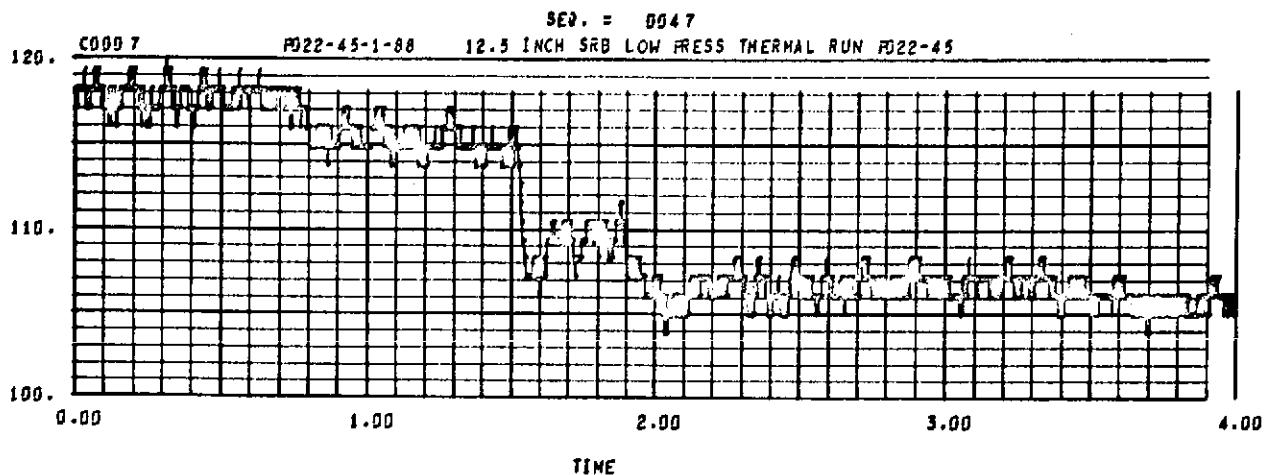
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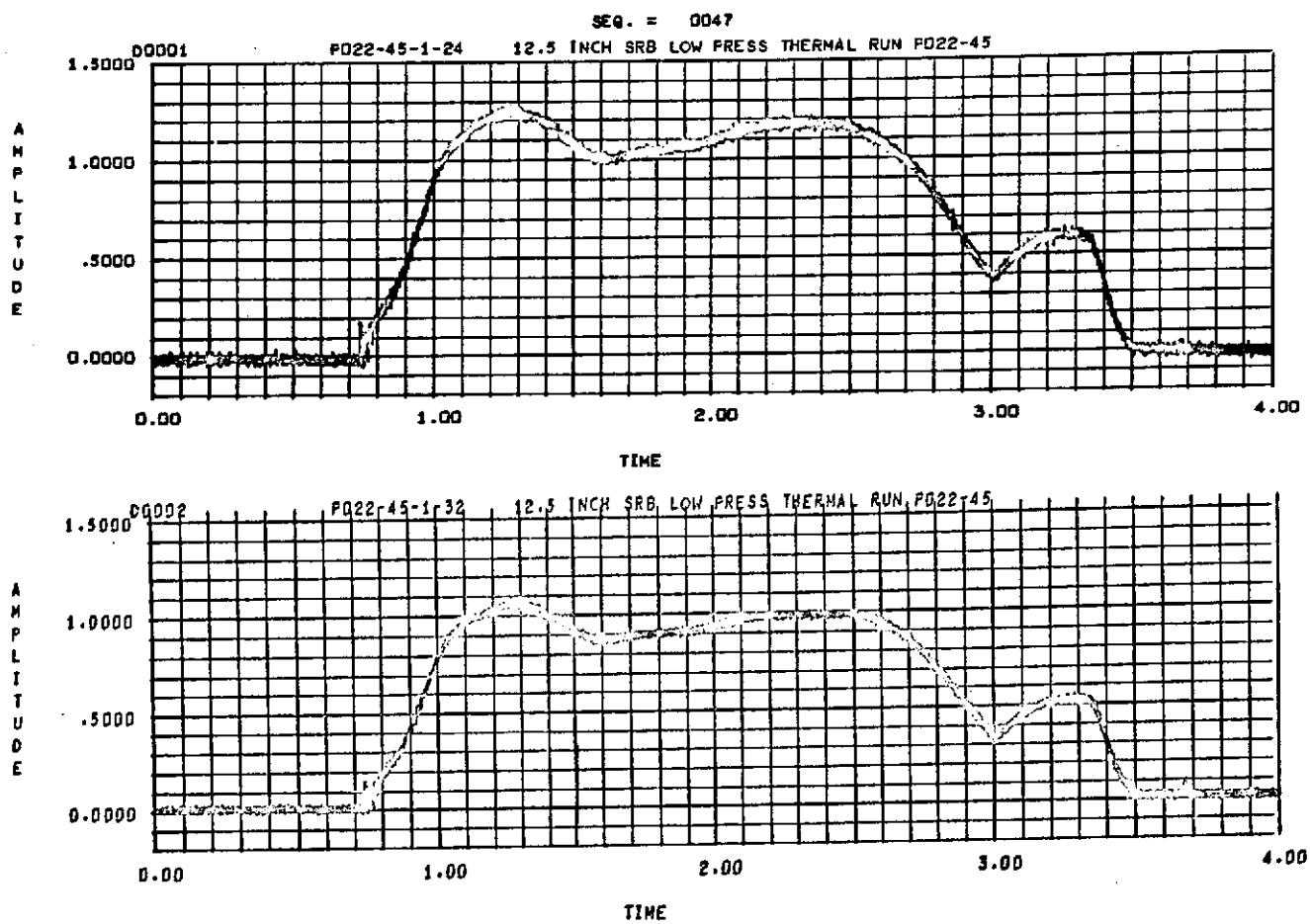
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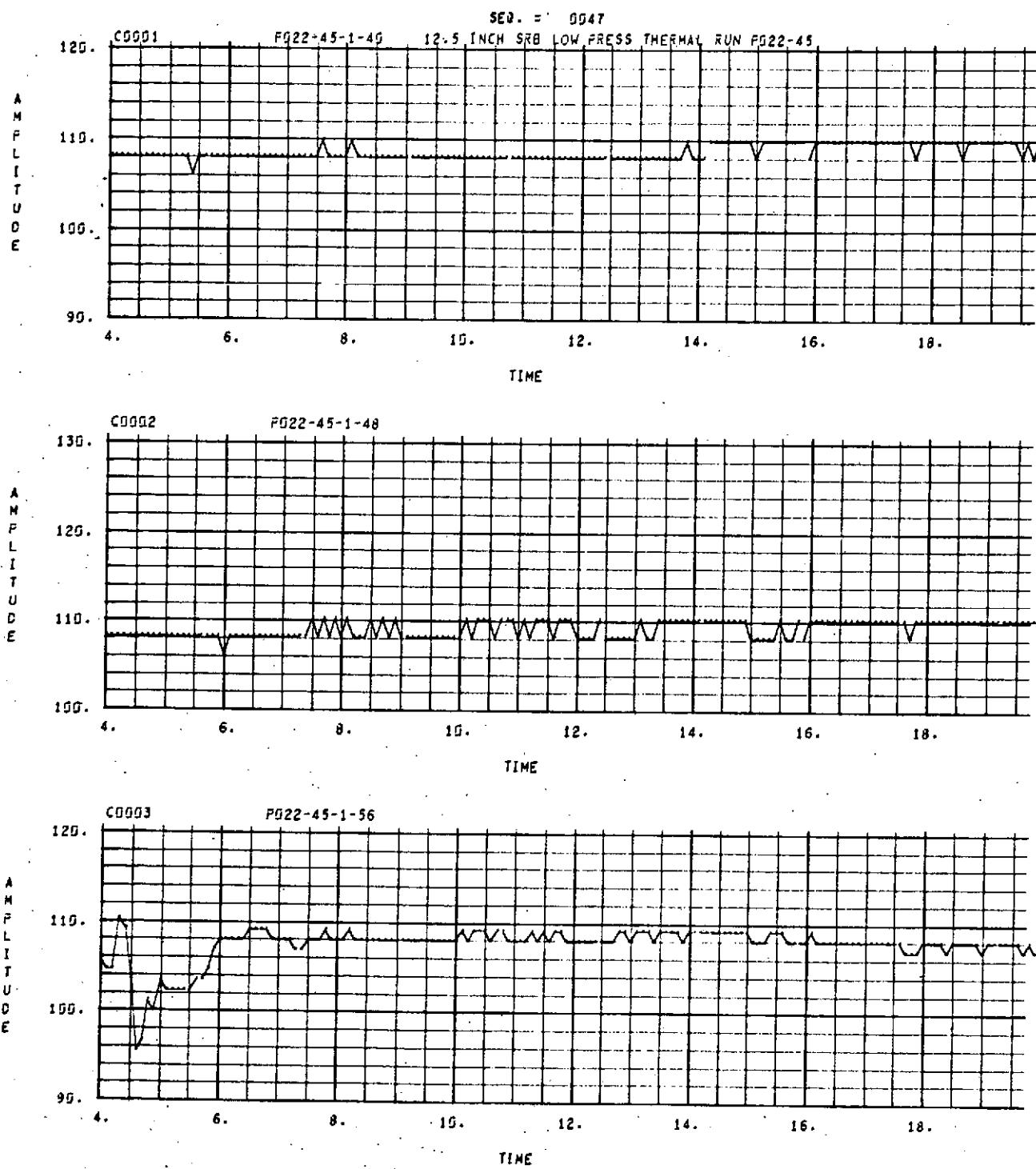


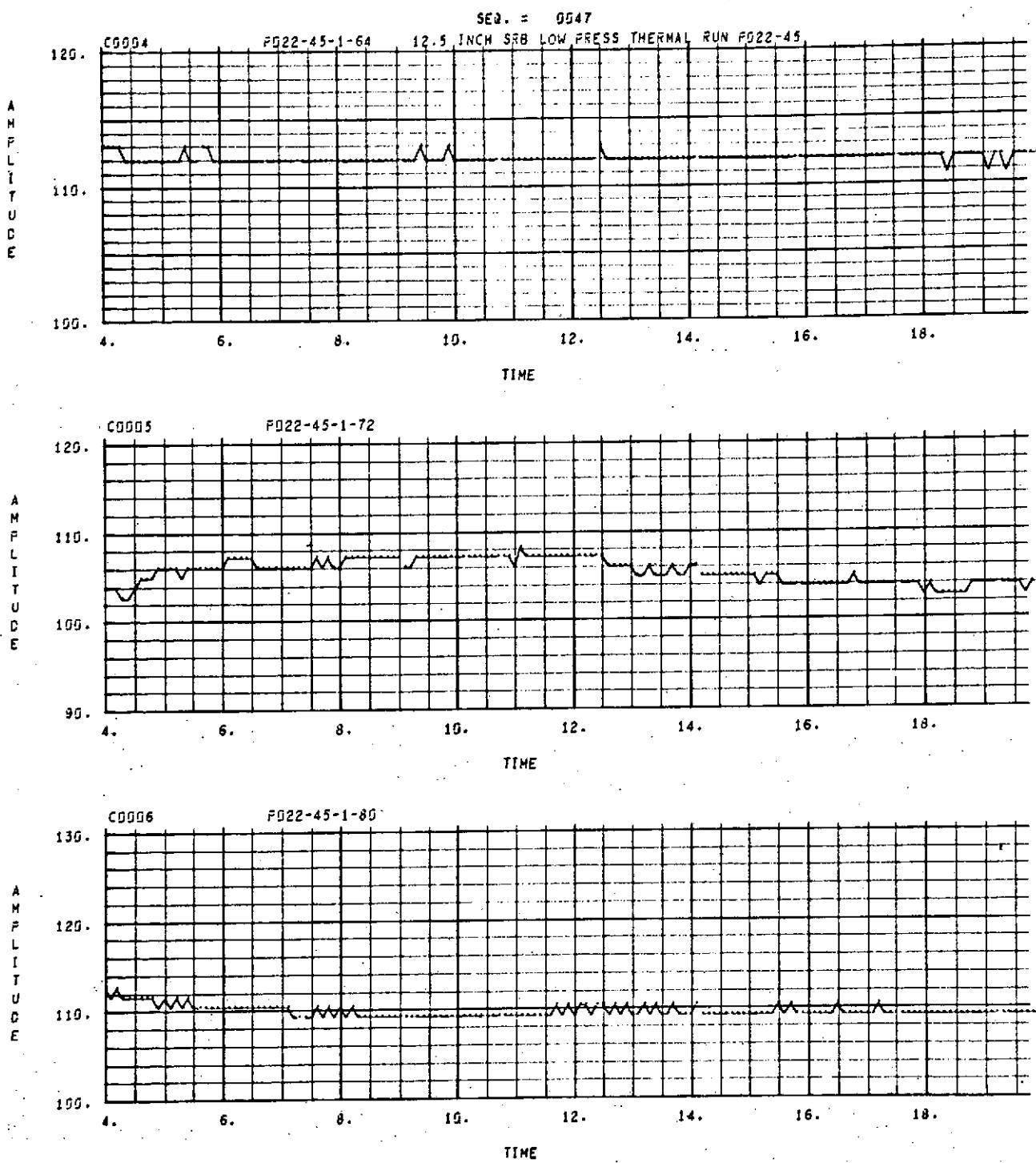
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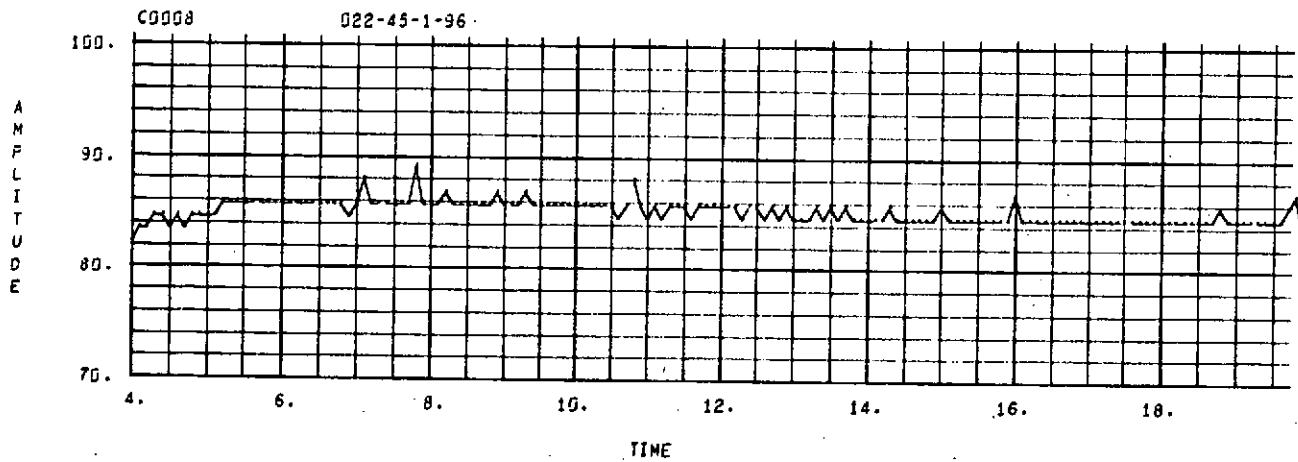
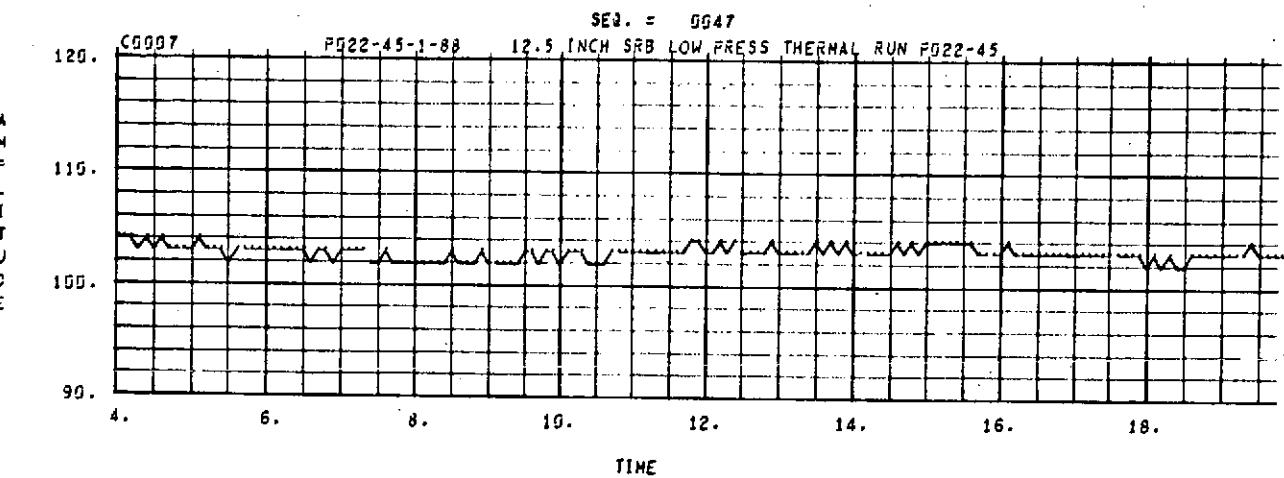


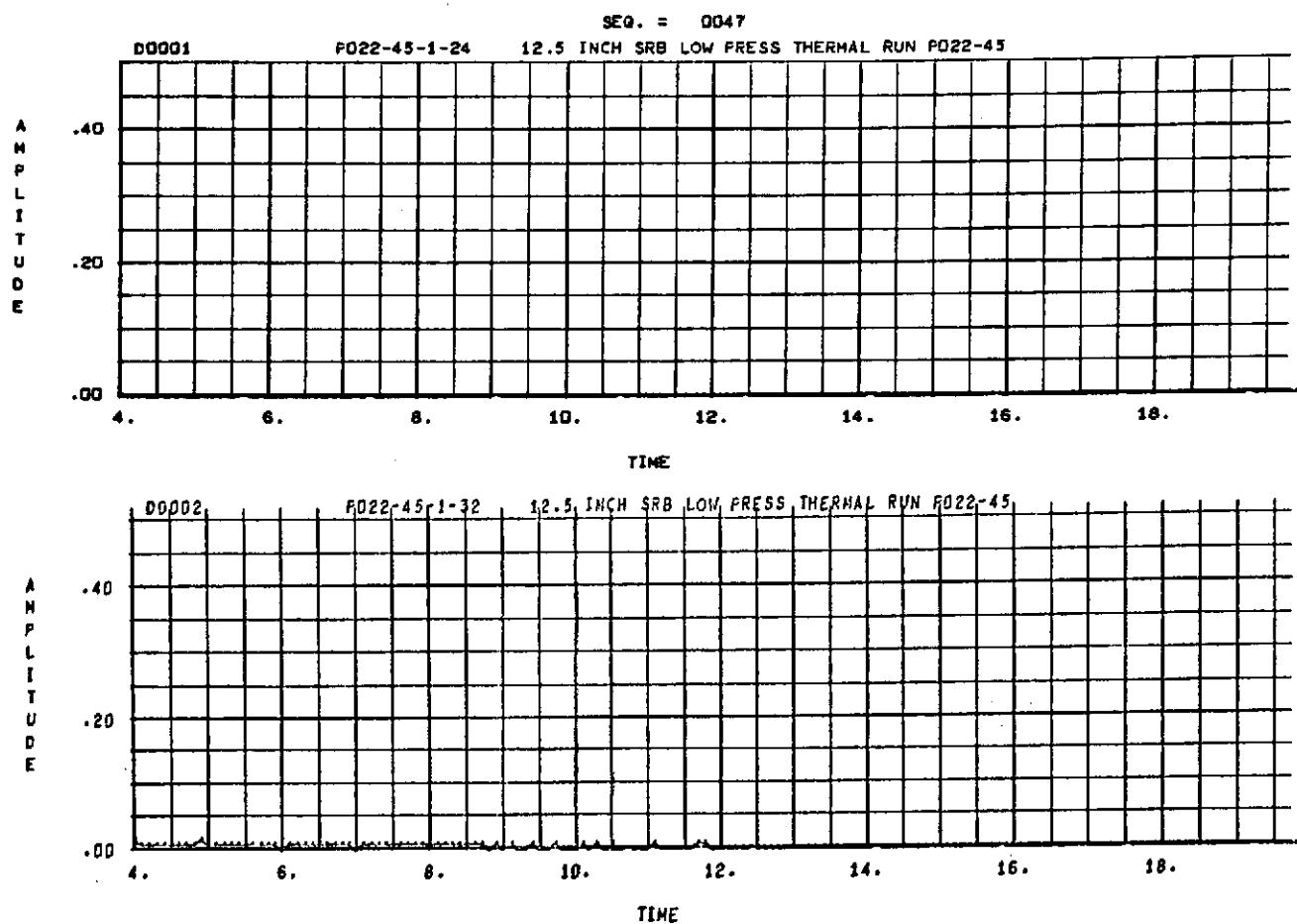


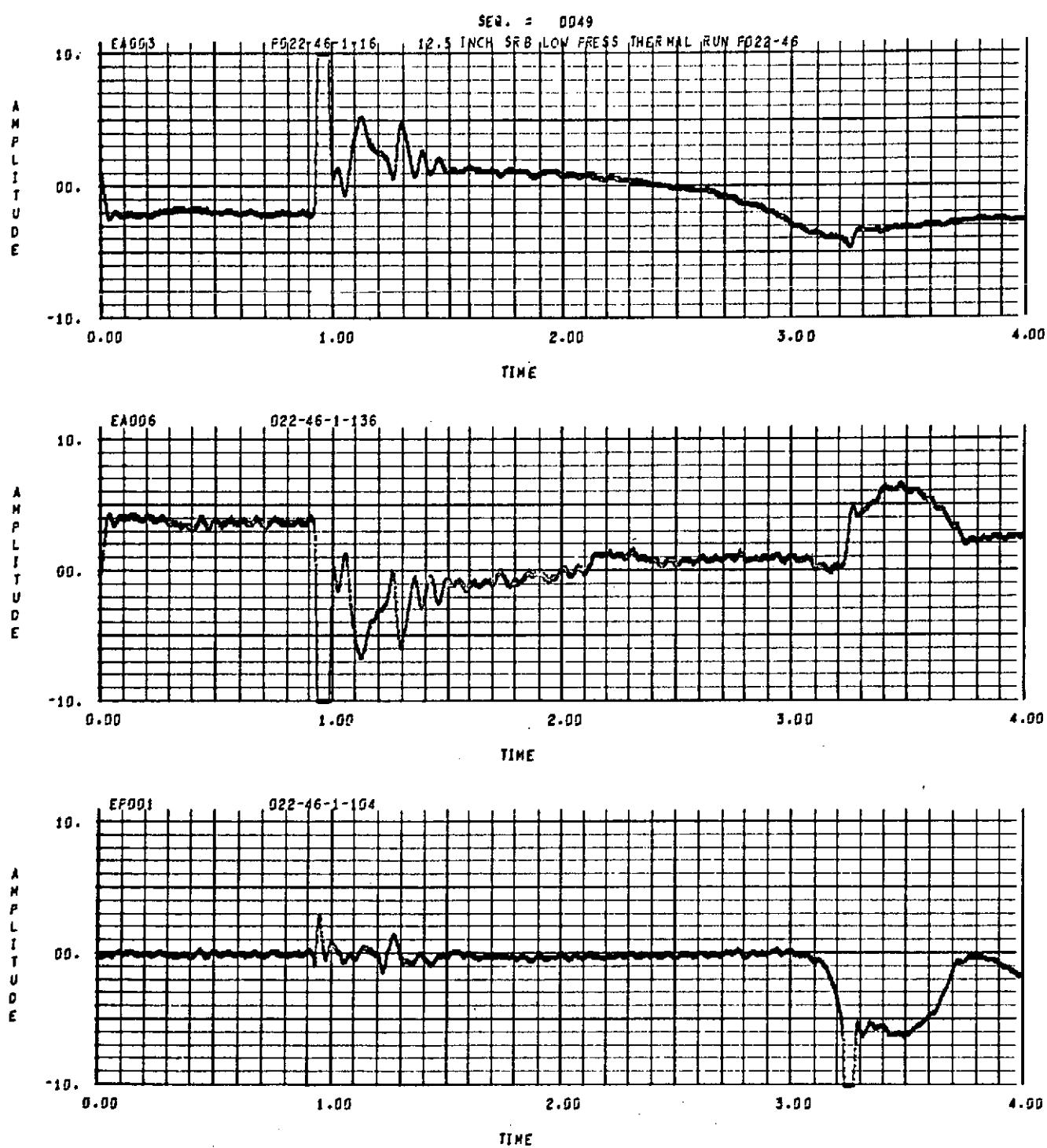


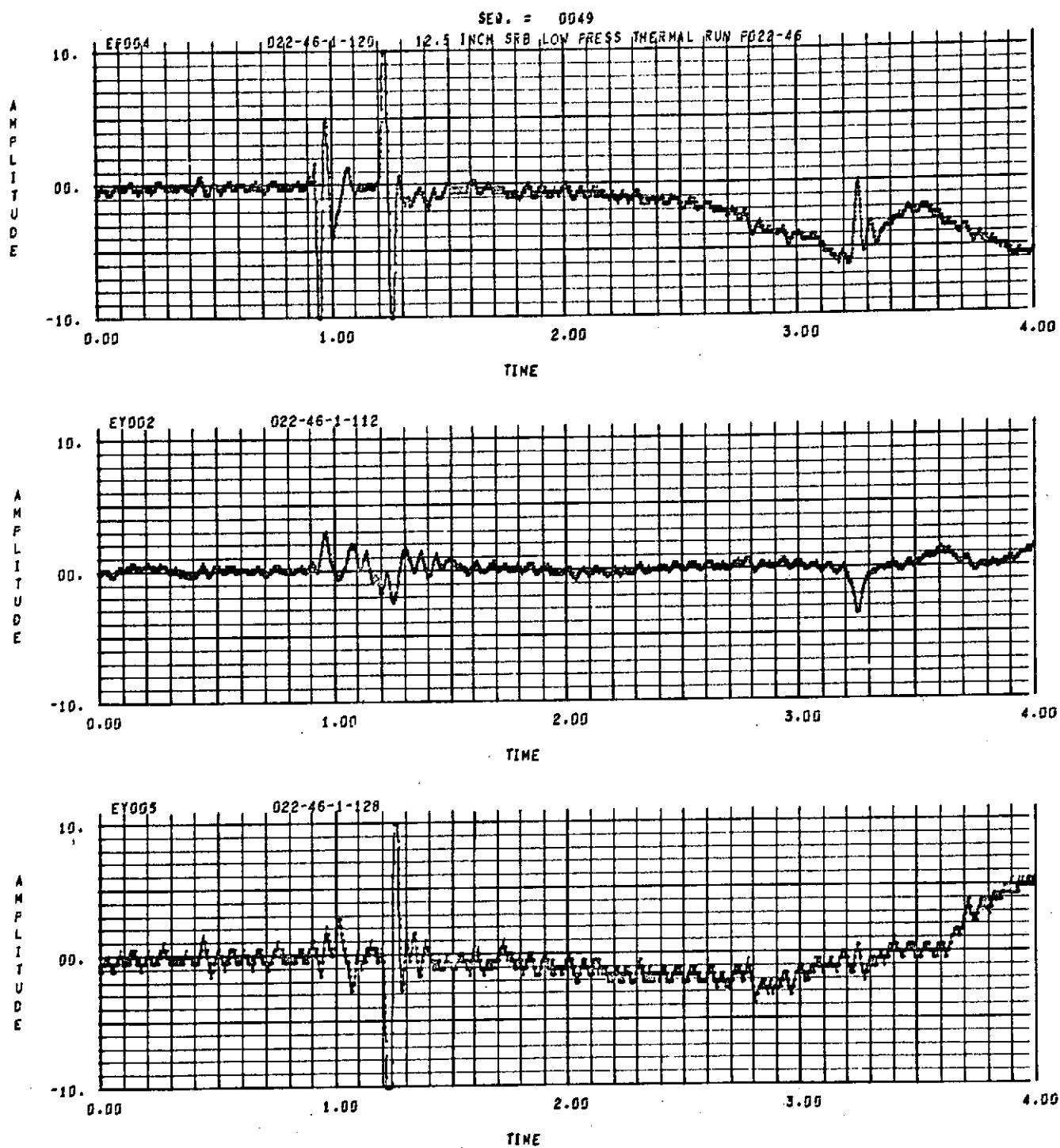


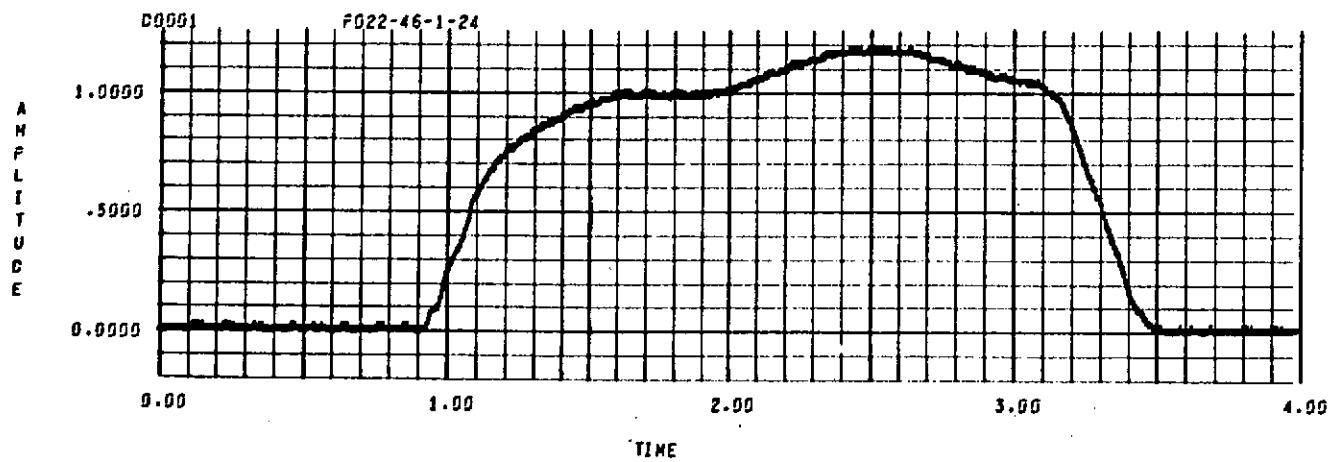
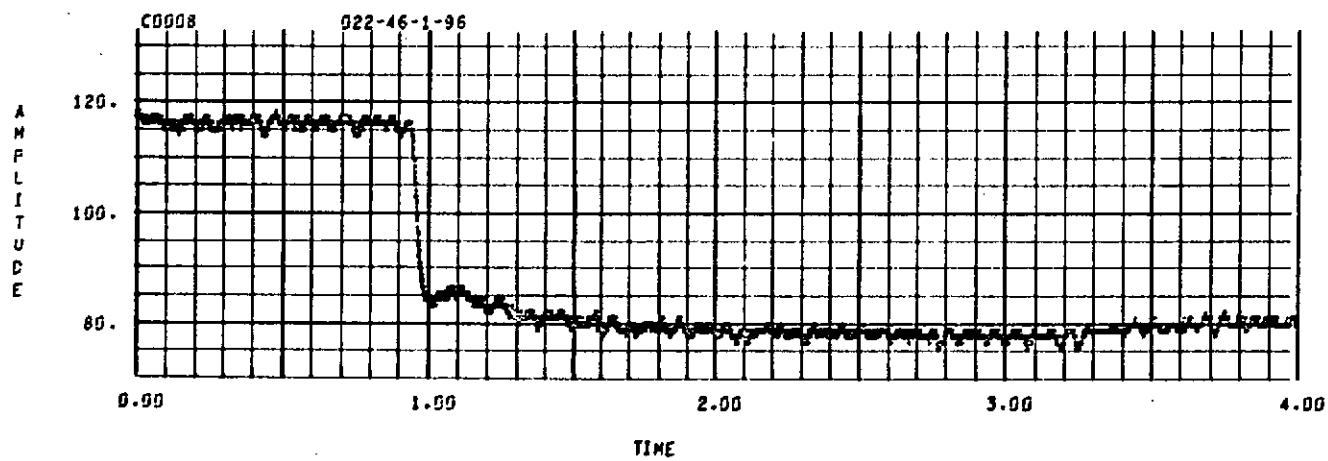
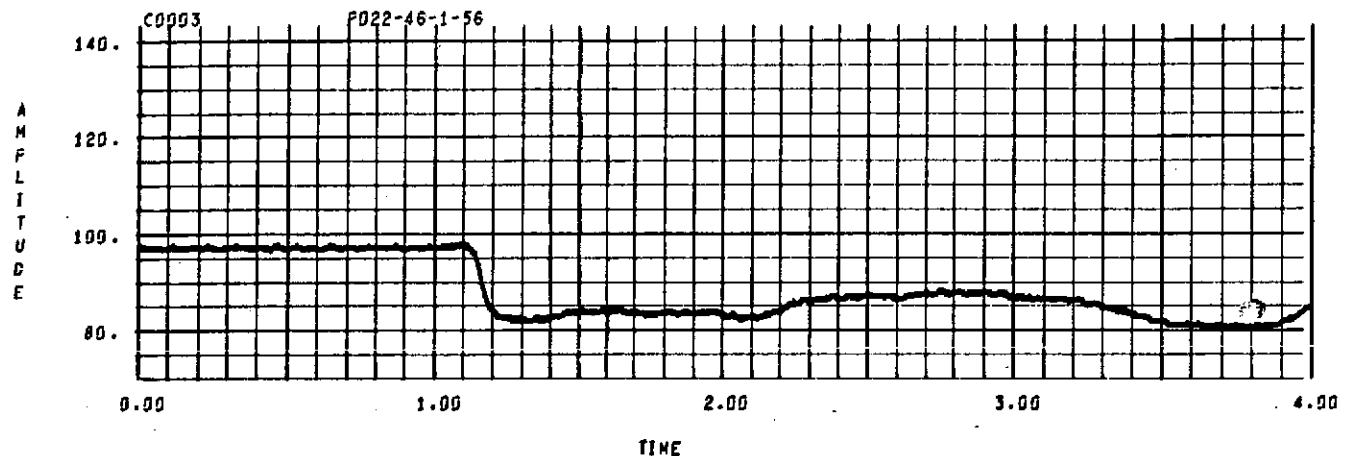


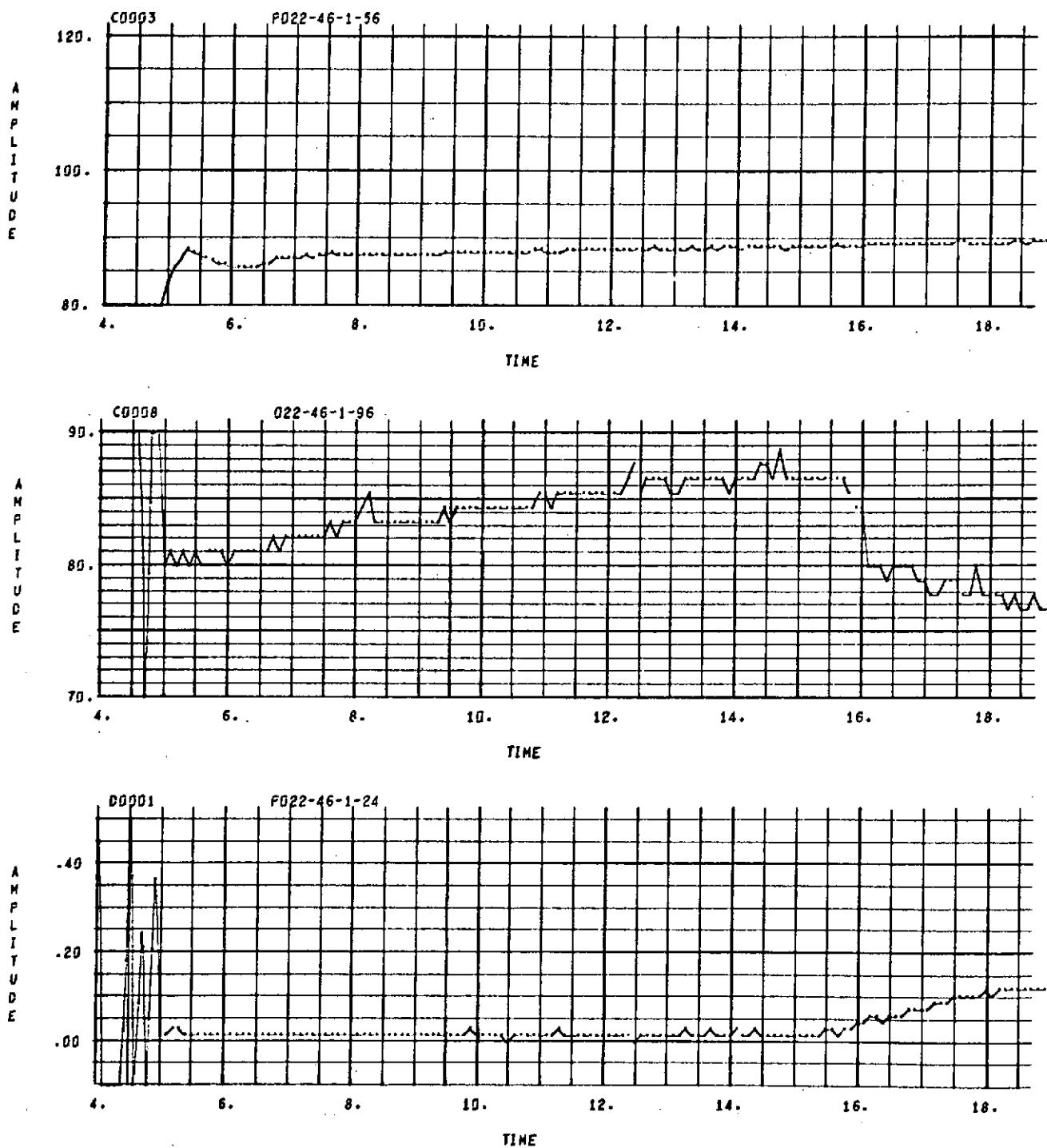


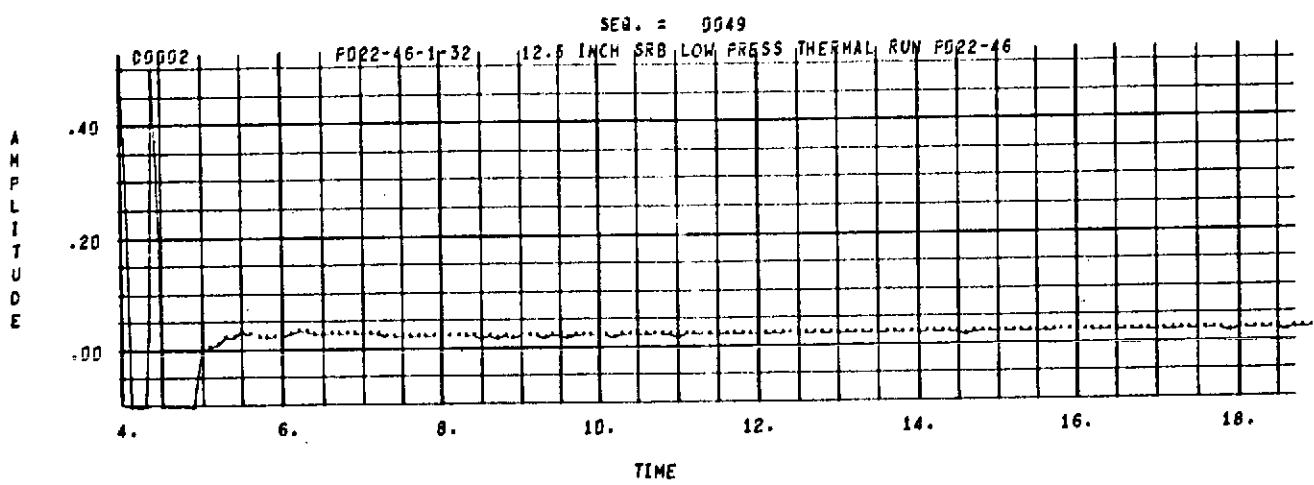


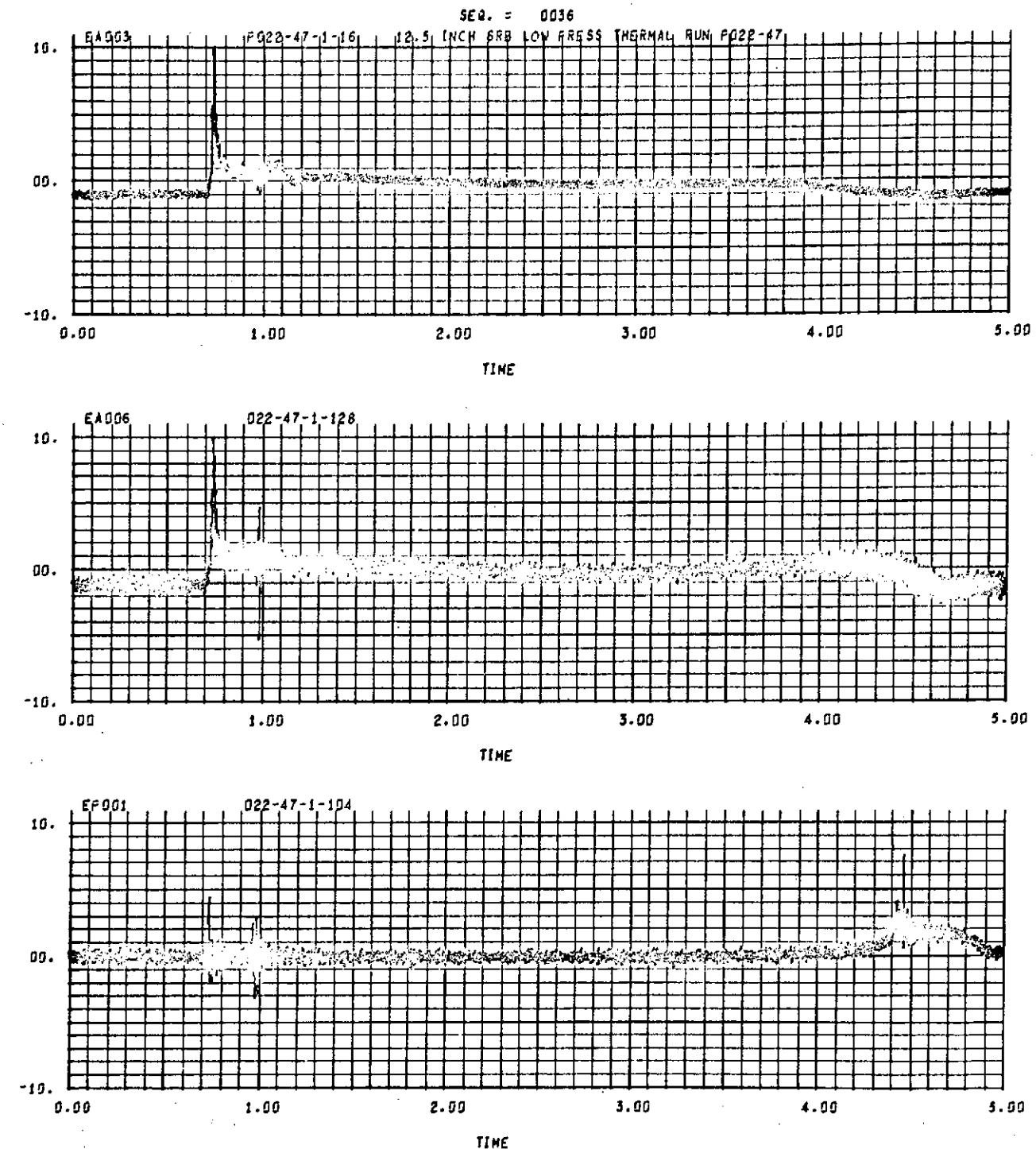


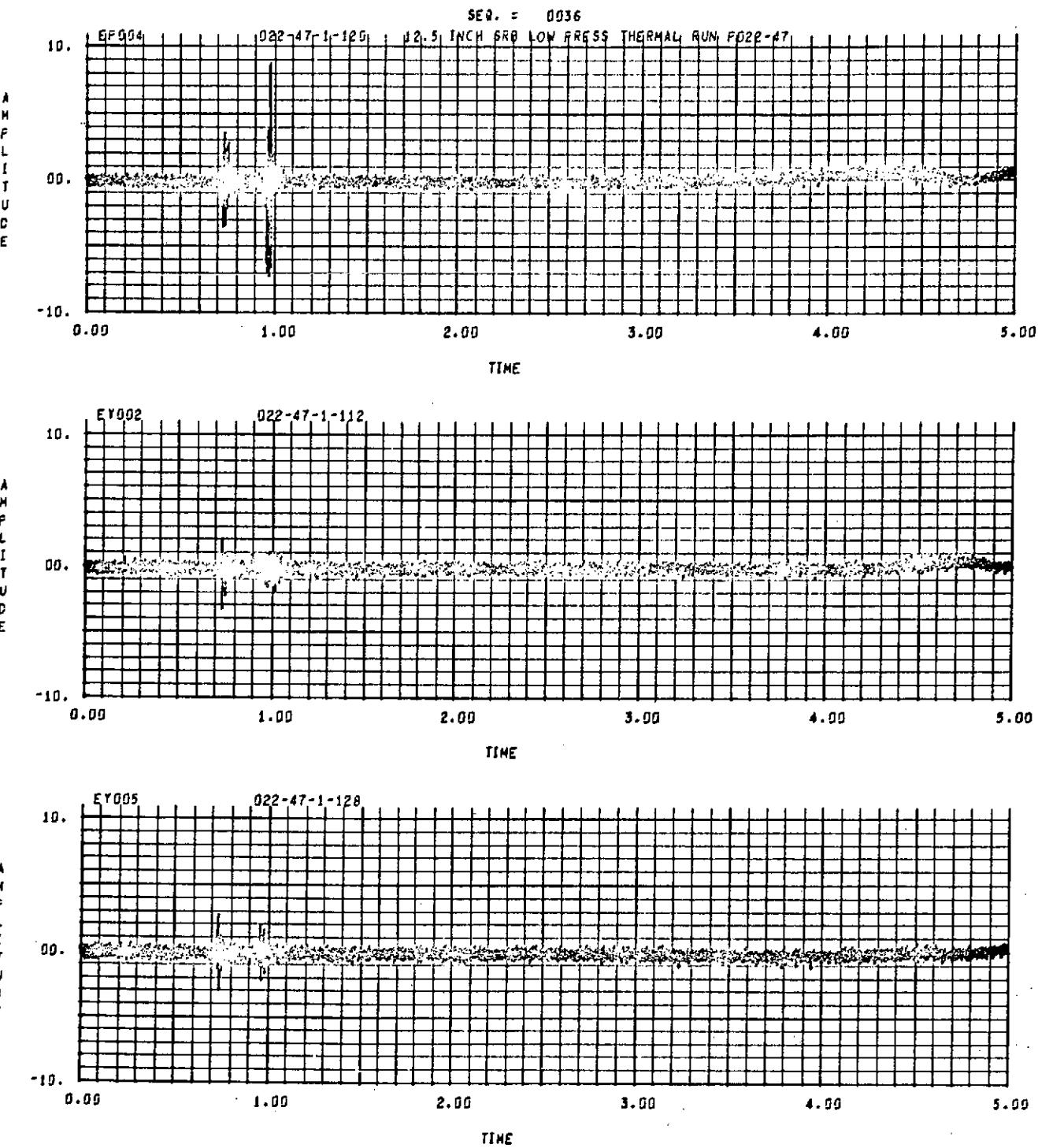




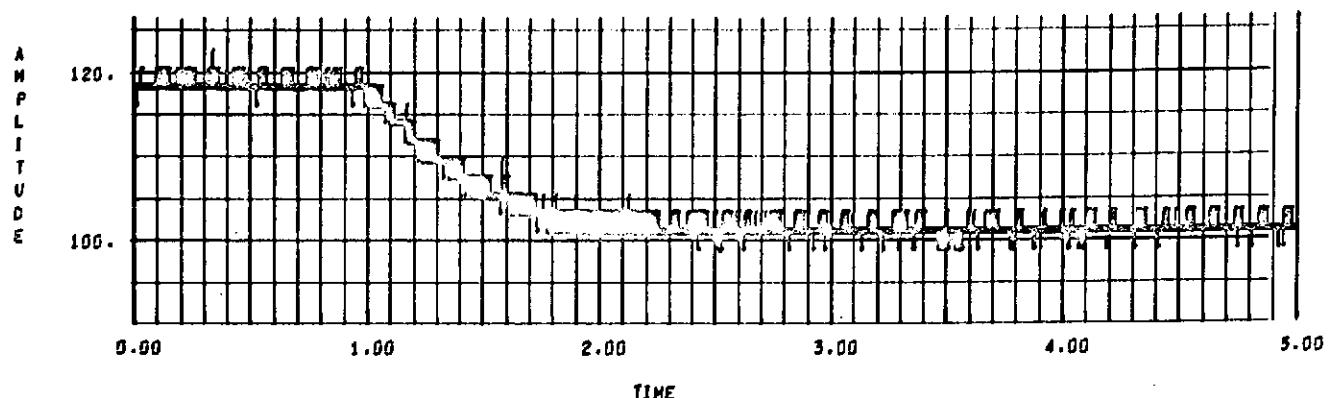




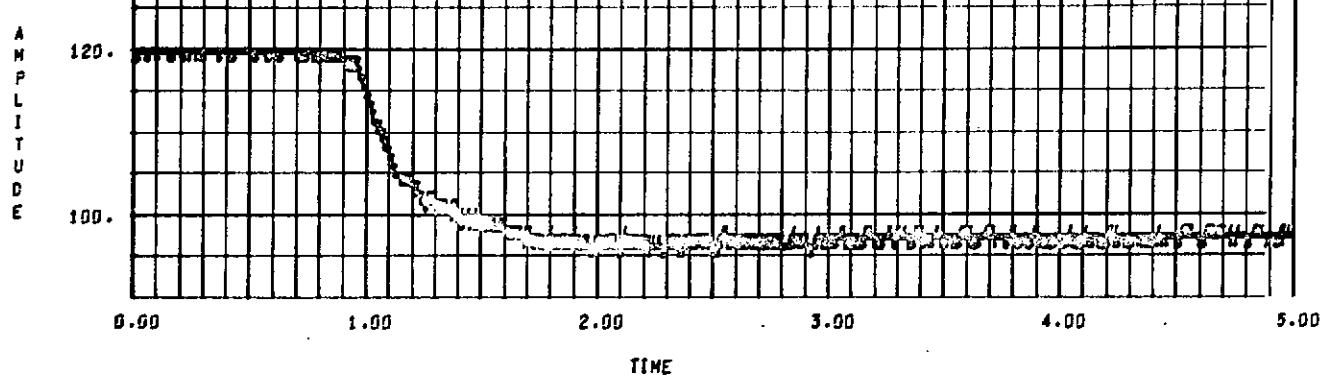




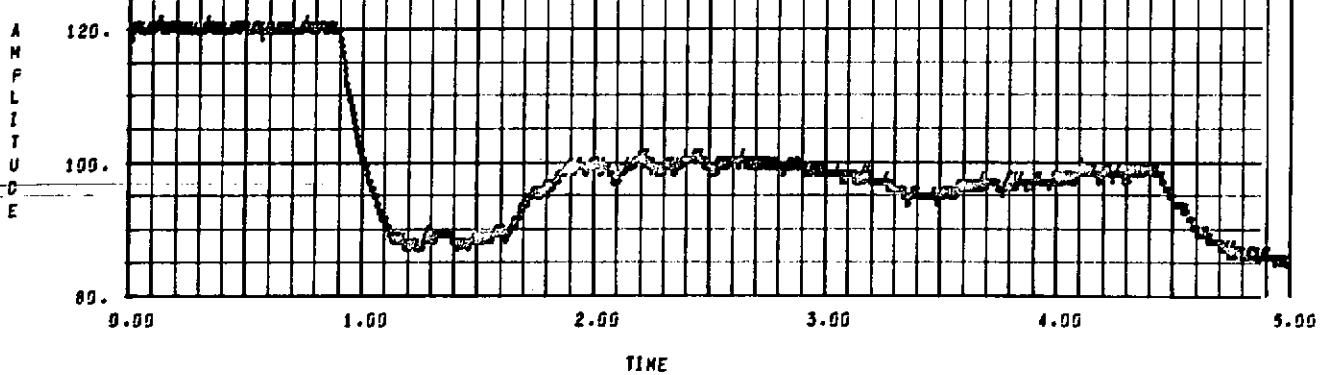
SEQ. = 0036
C0001 P022-47-1-40 12.5 INCH SRB LOW PRESS THERMAL RUN P022-47

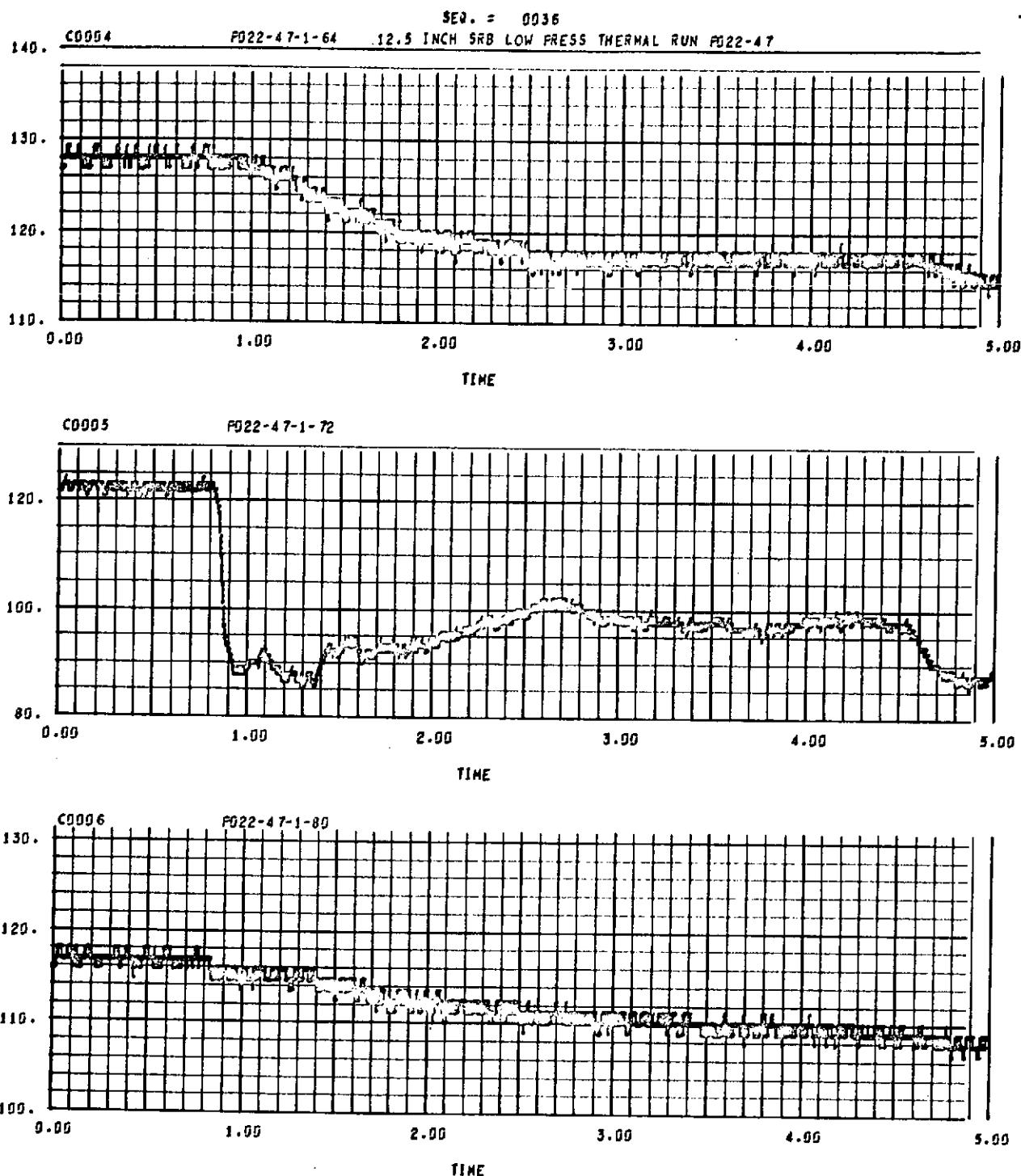


C0002 P022-47-1-48

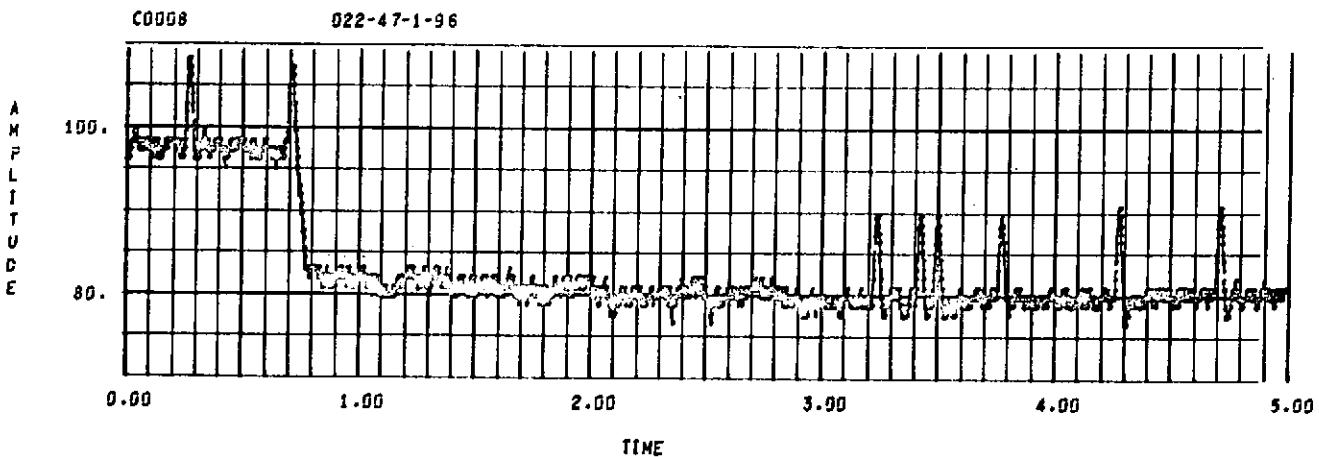
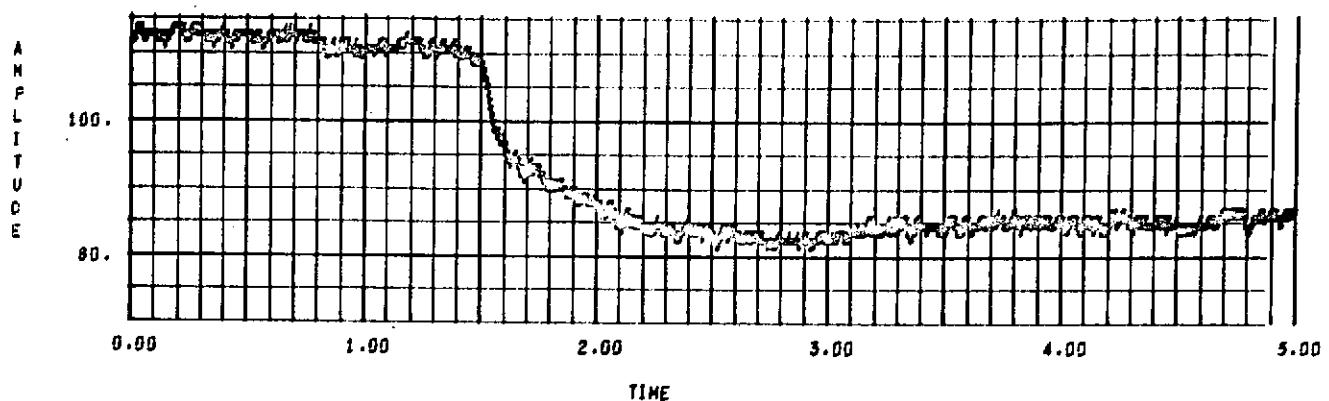


C0003 P022-47-1-56

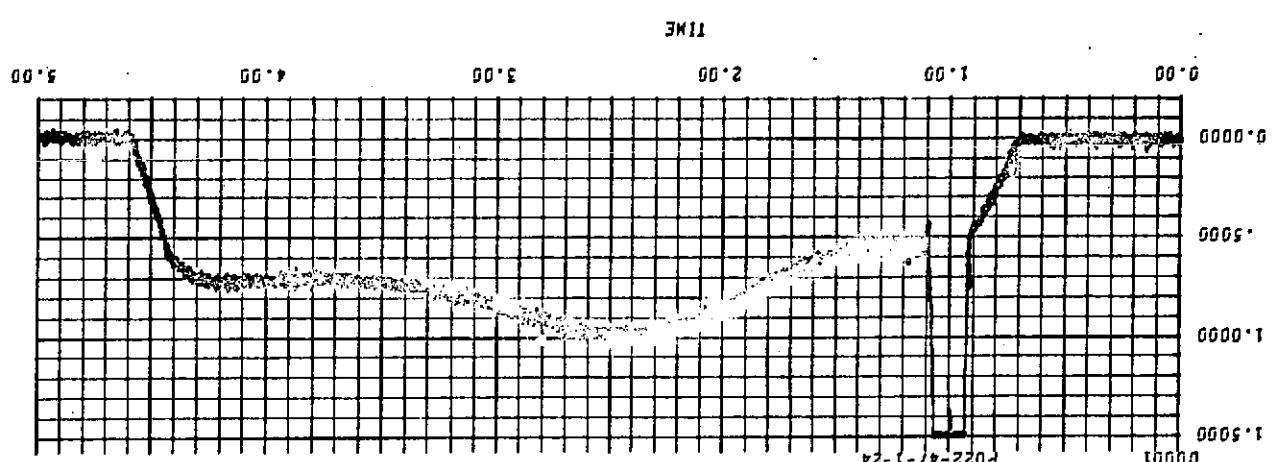
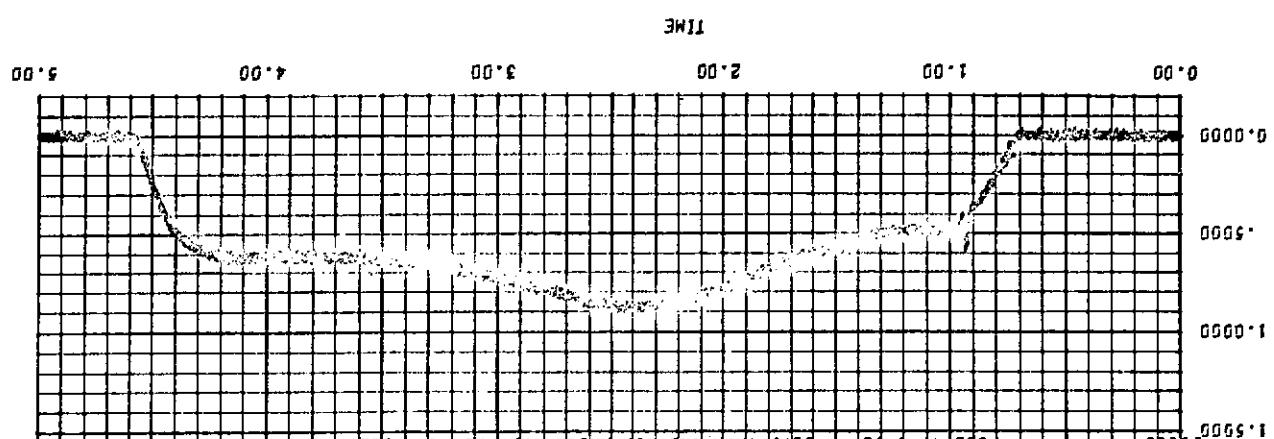
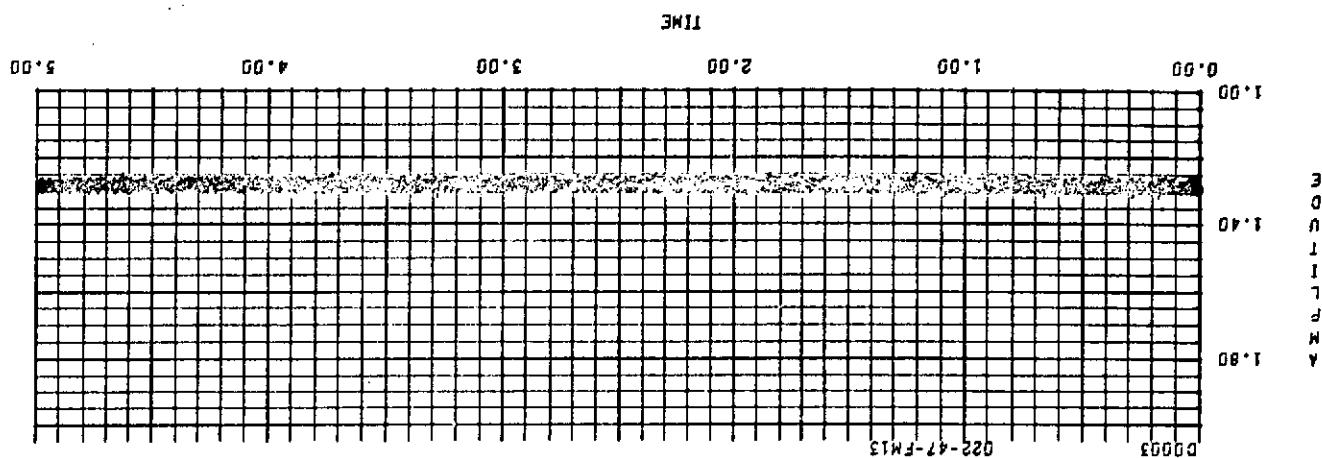




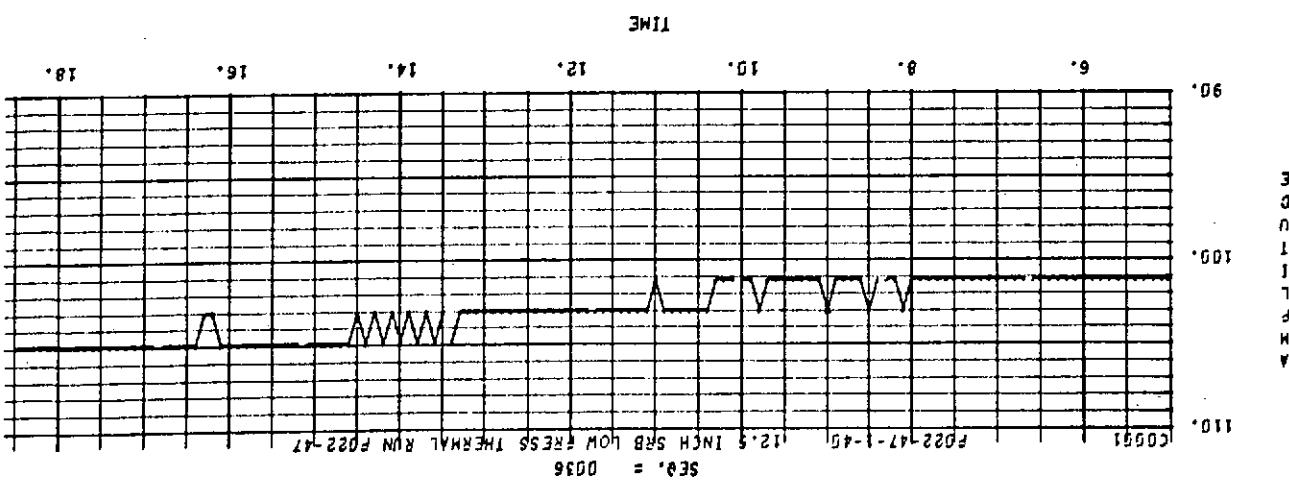
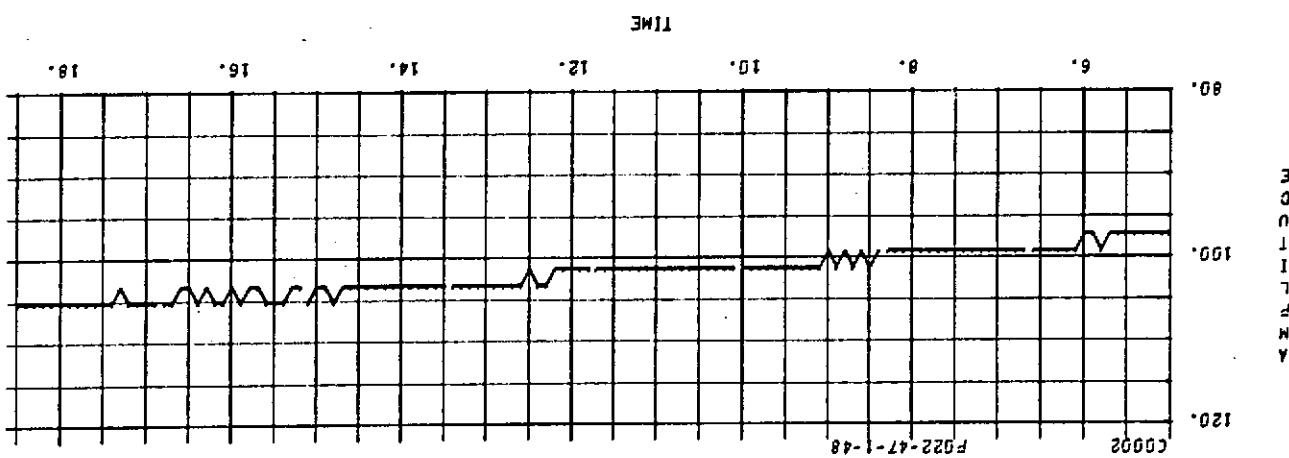
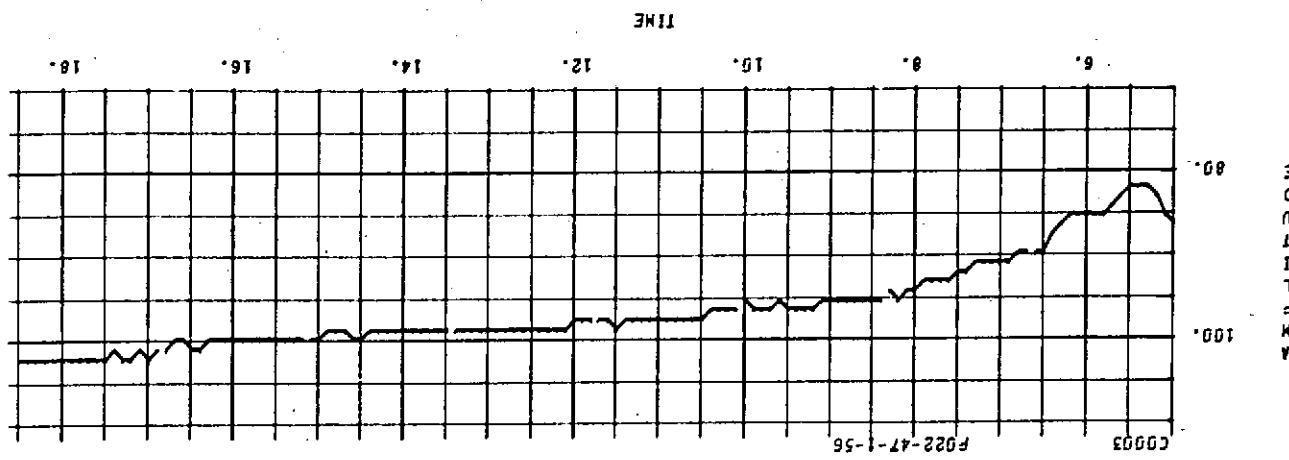
SEQ. = 0036
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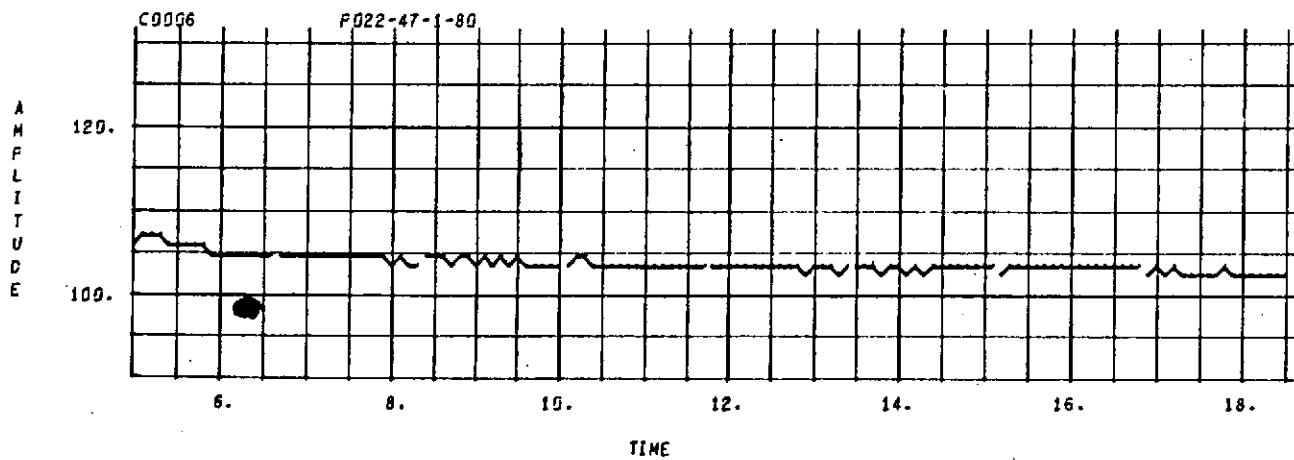
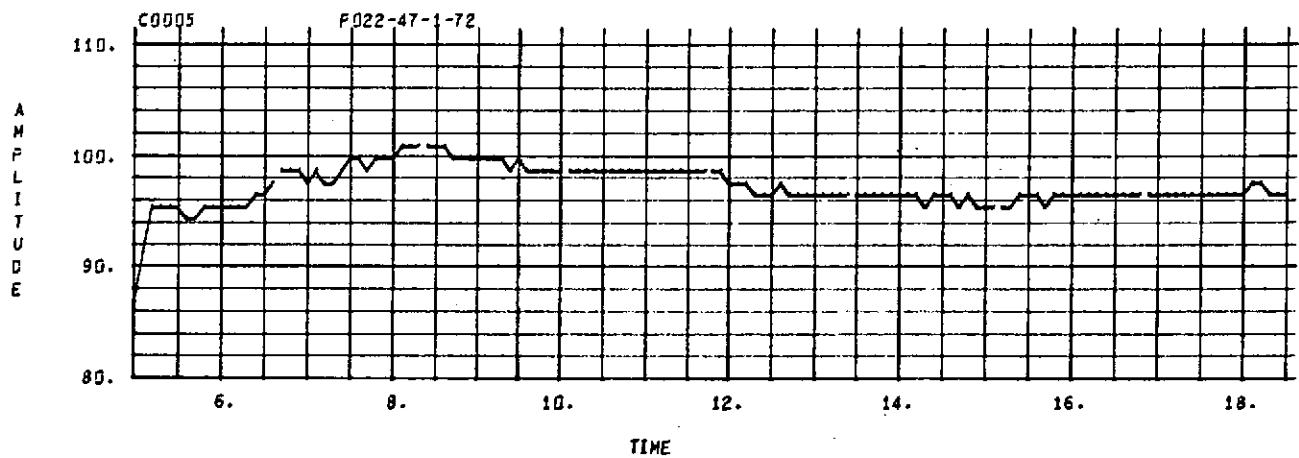
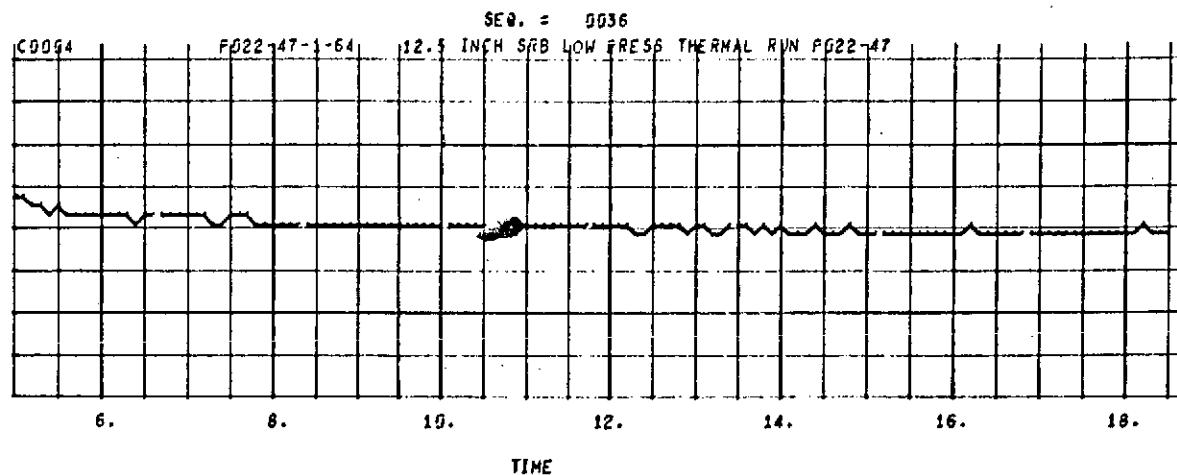


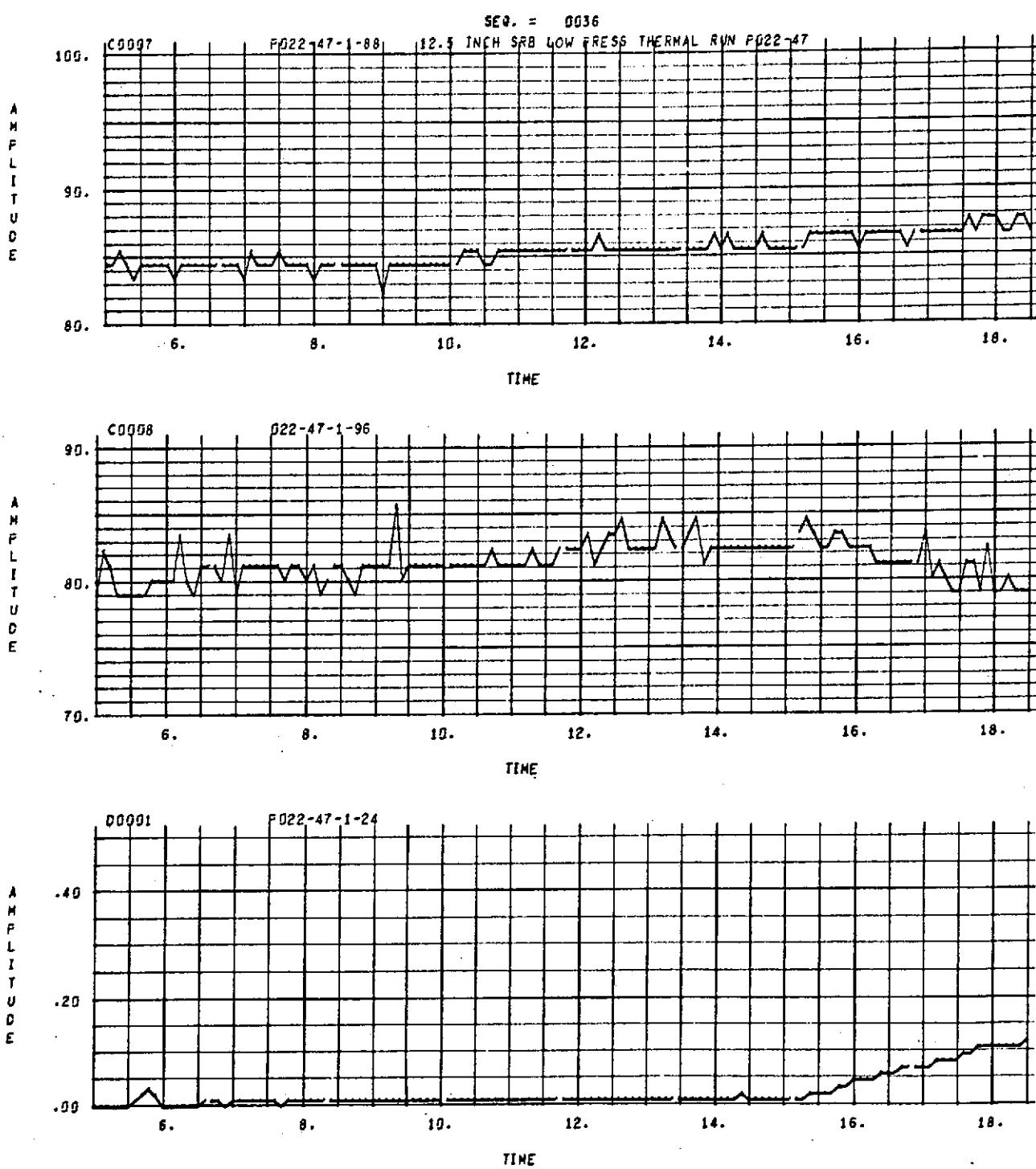
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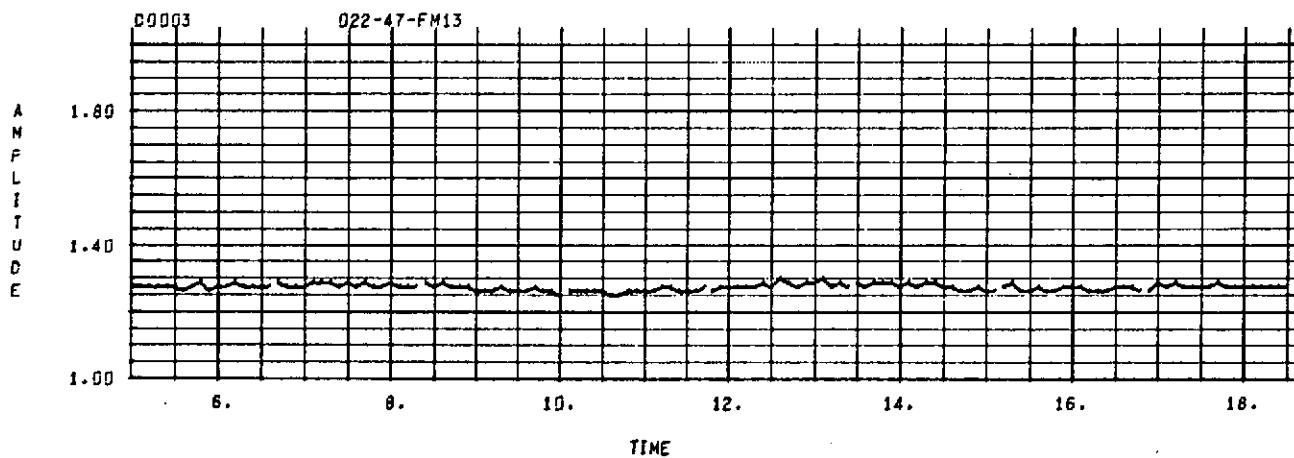
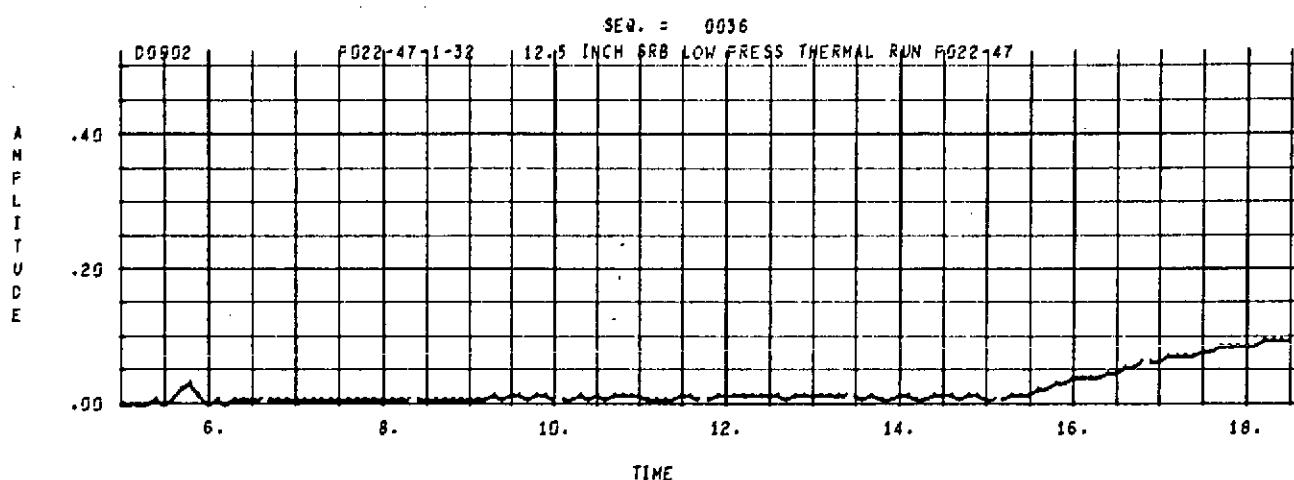


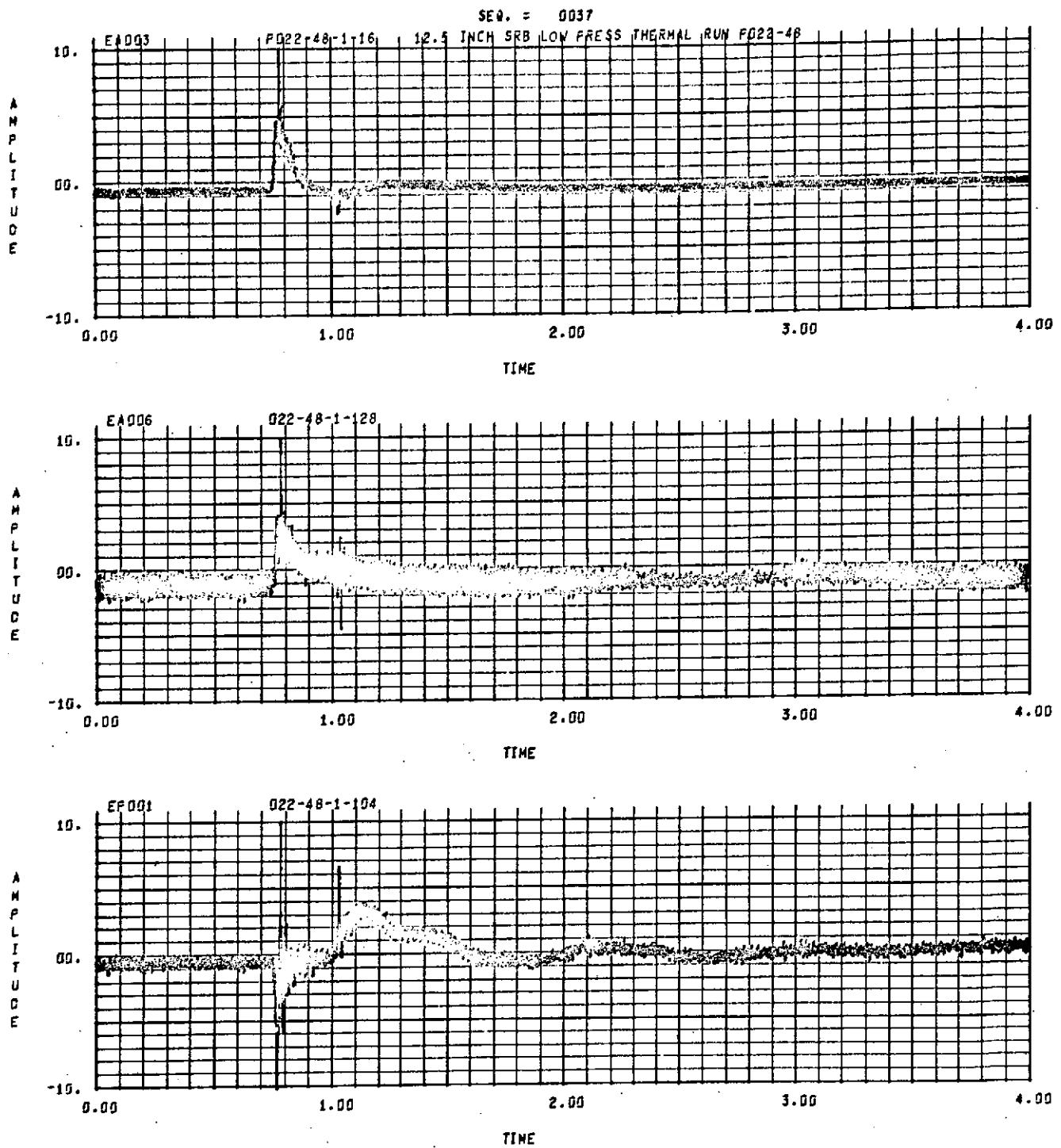
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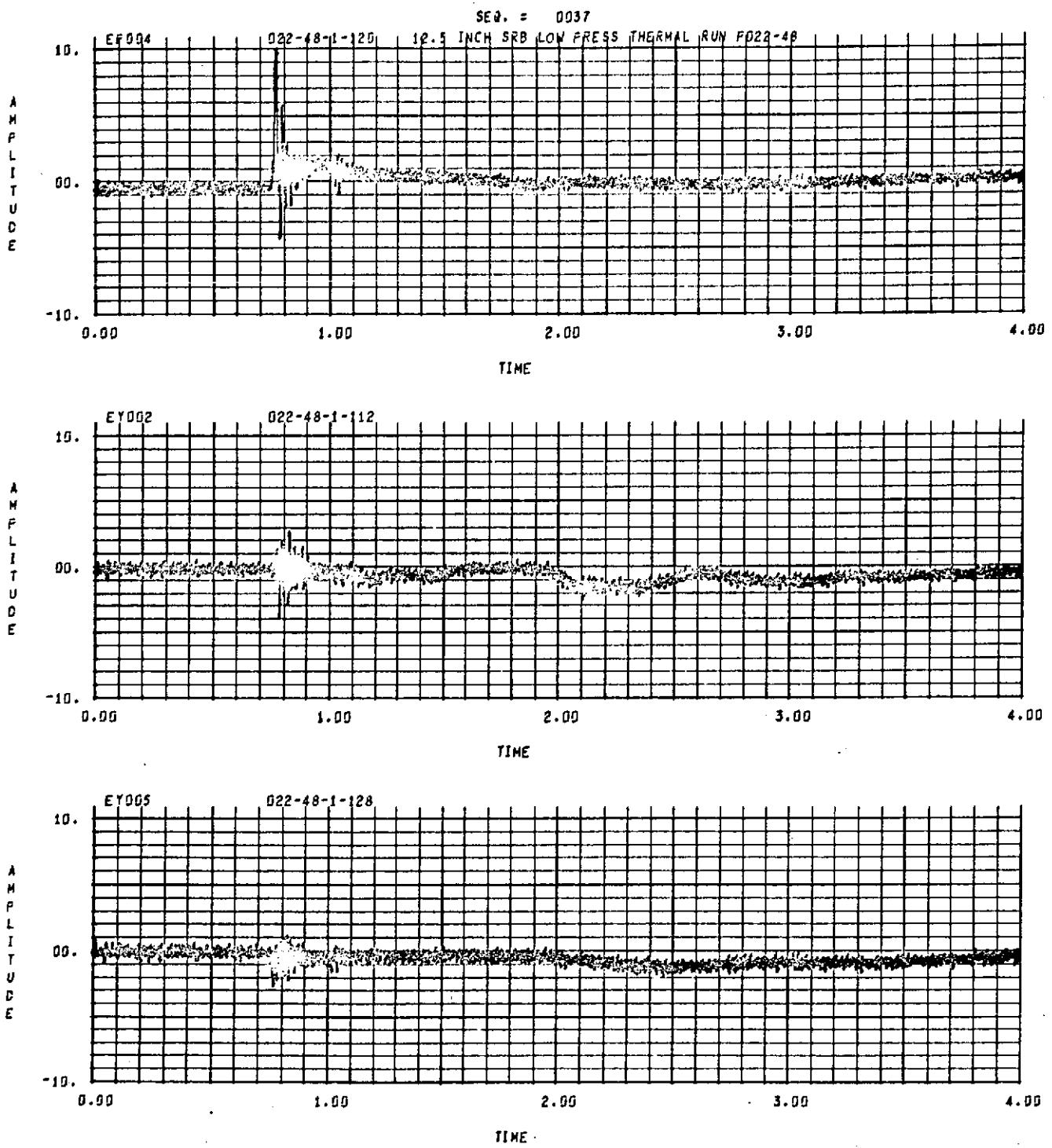


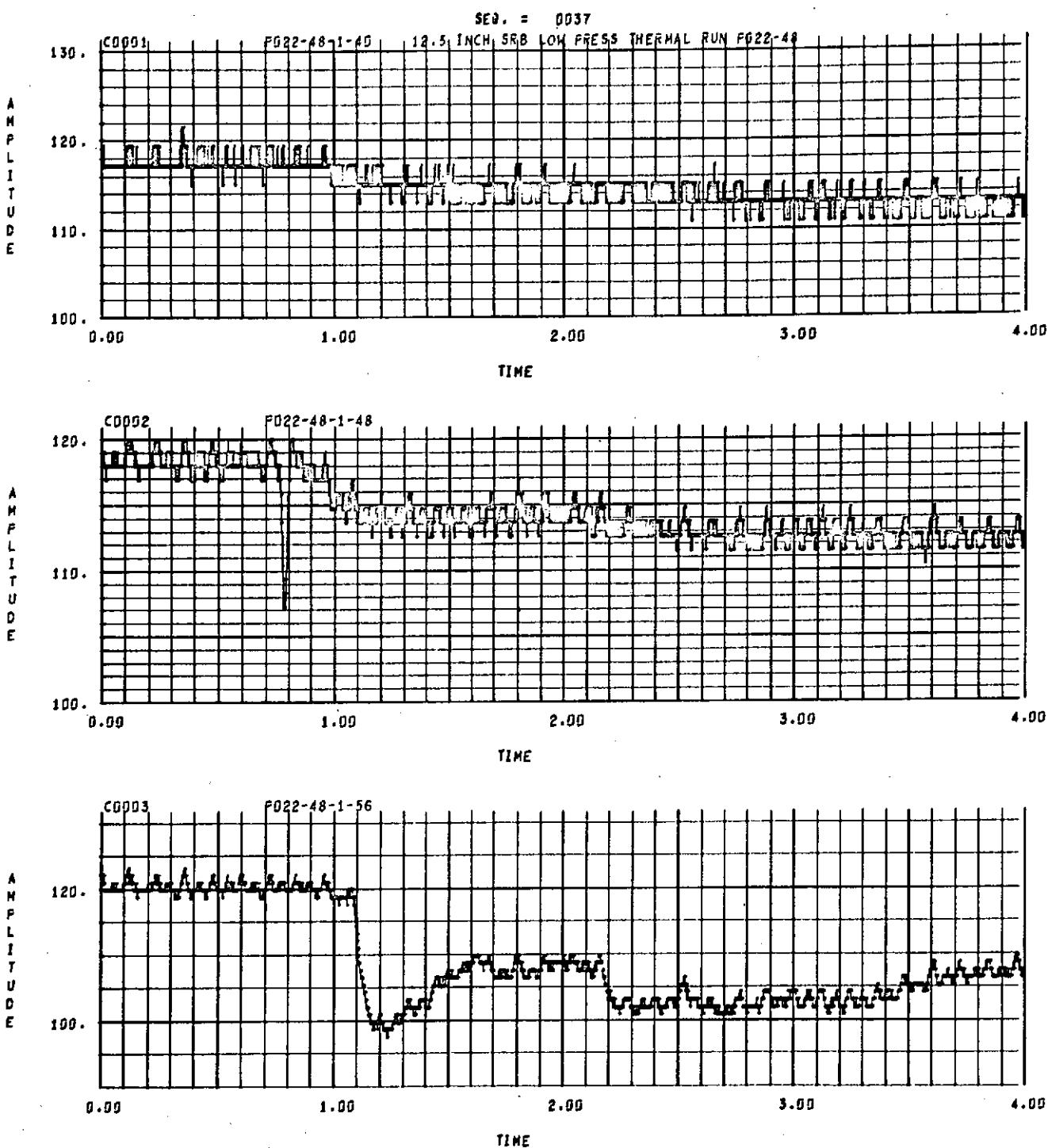




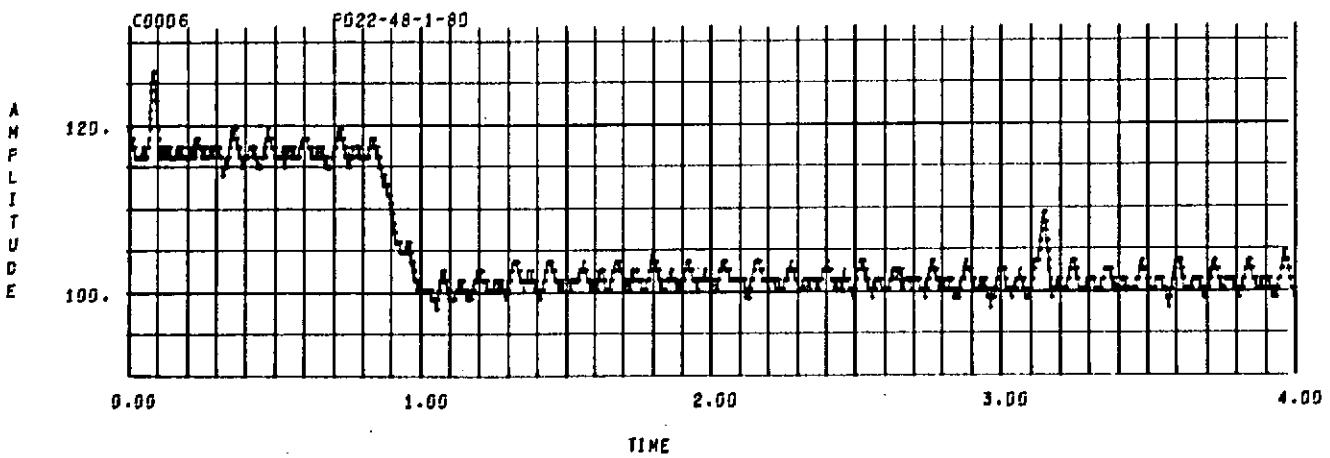
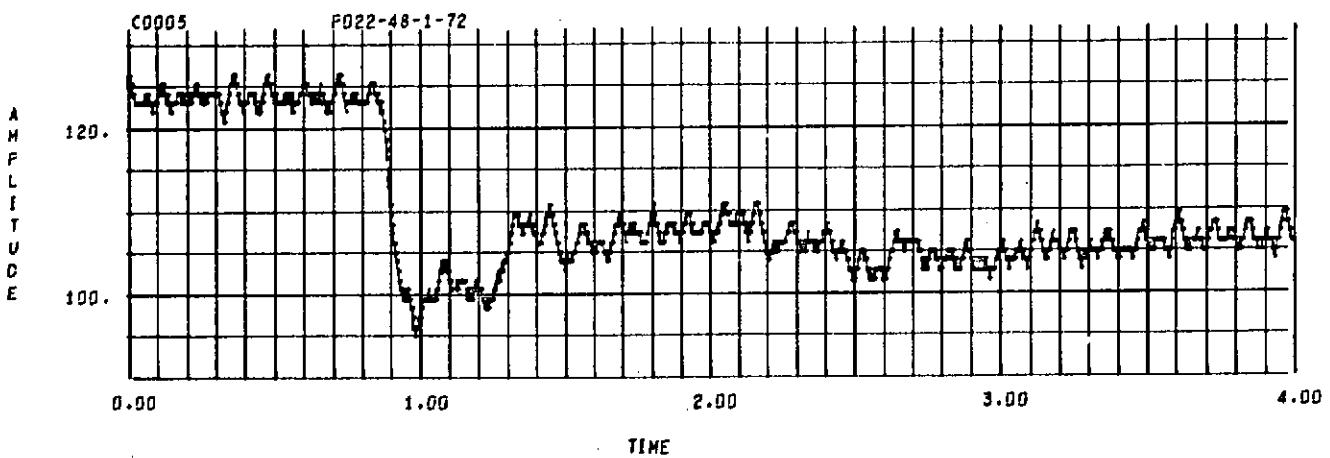
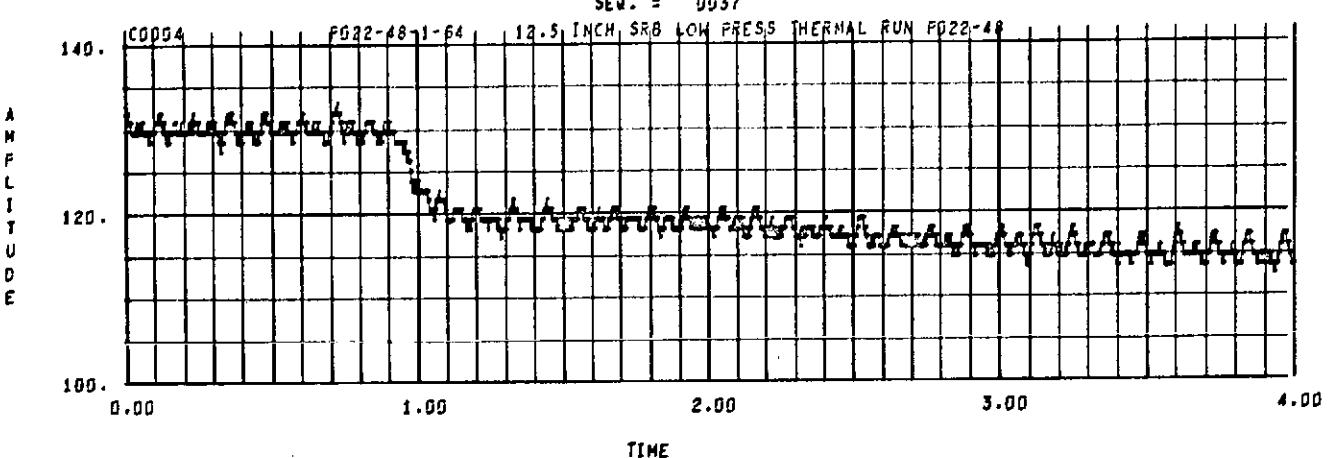


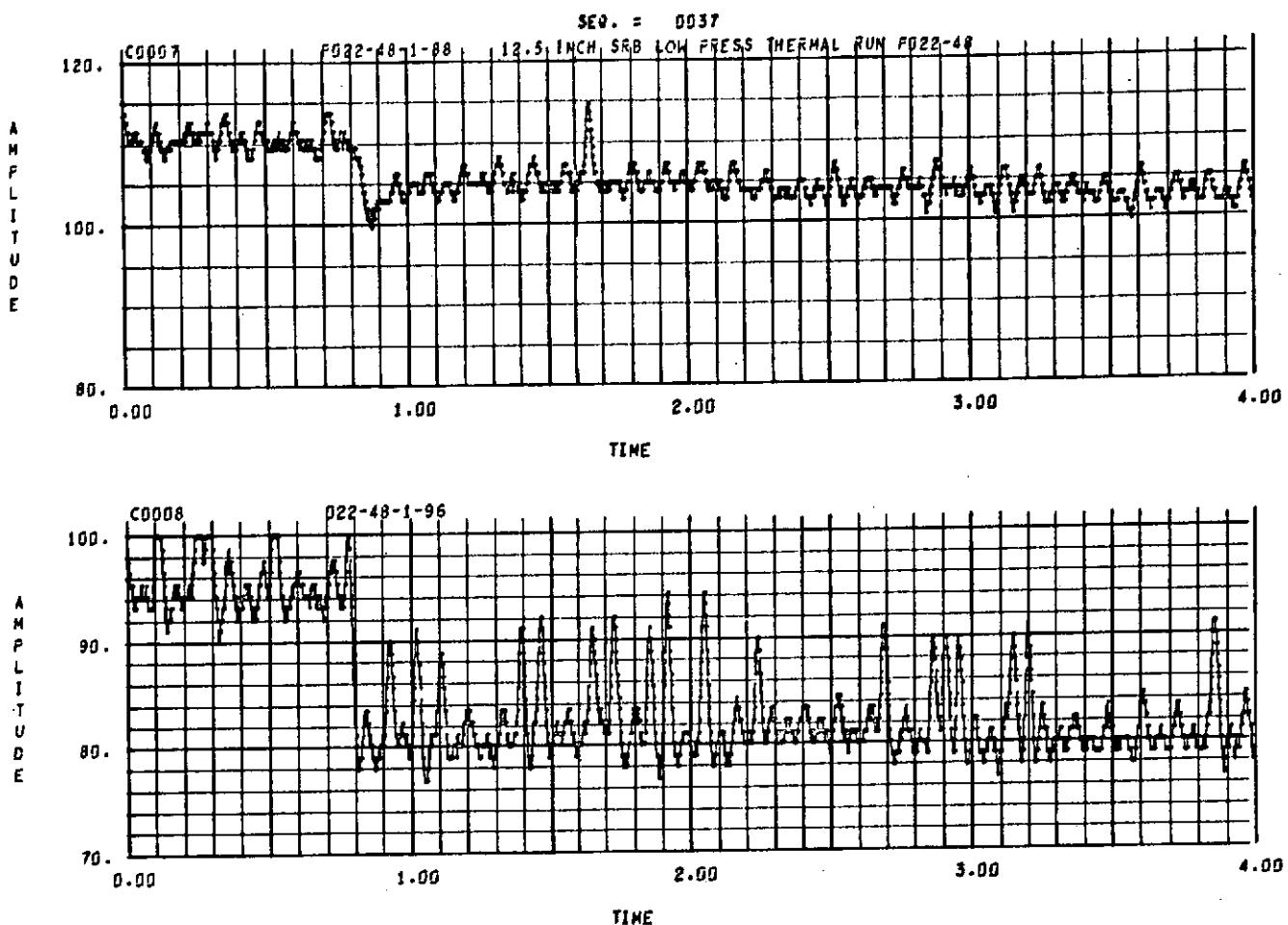


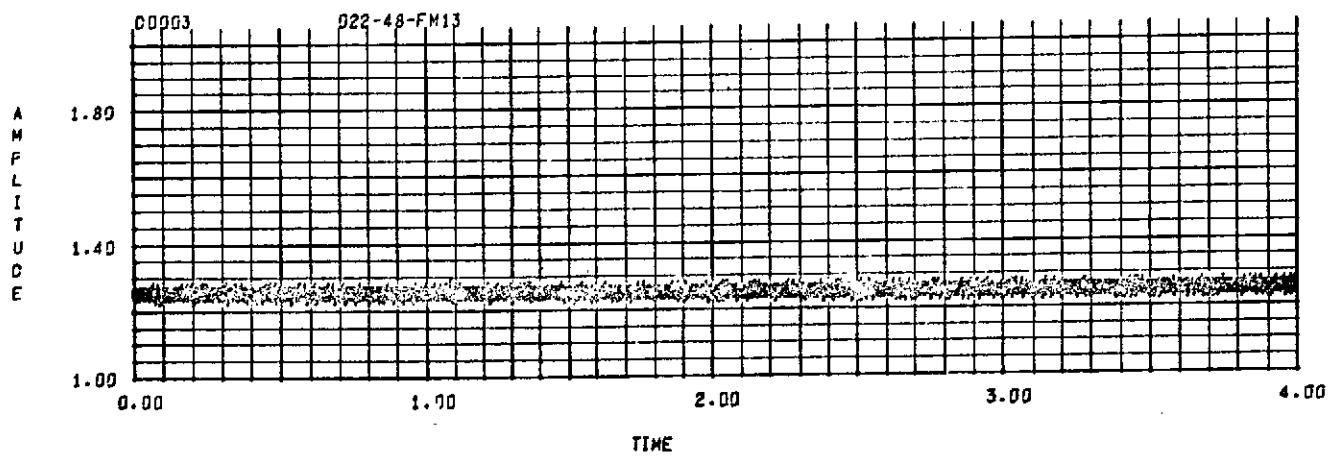
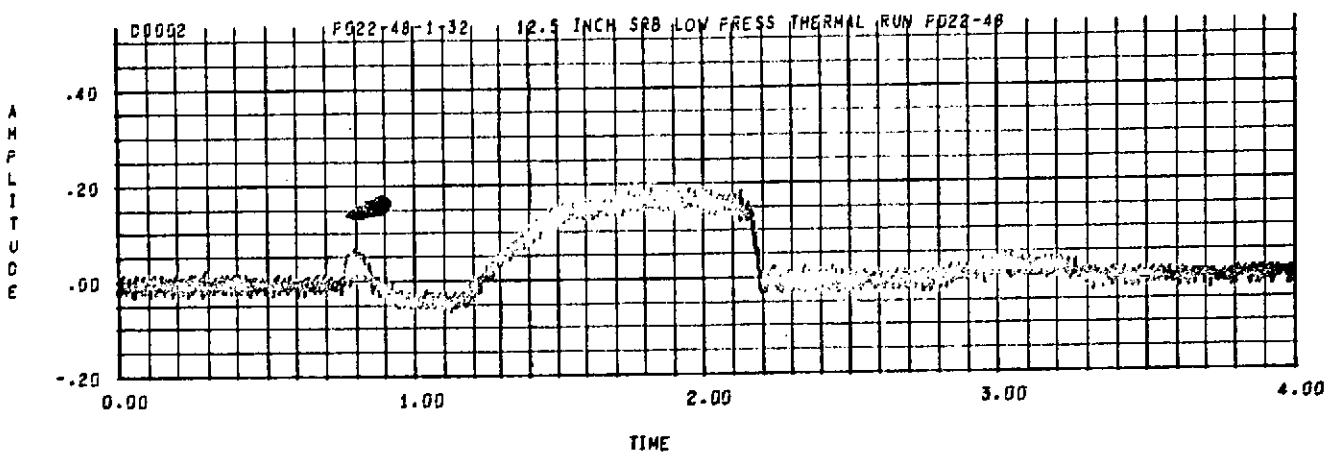
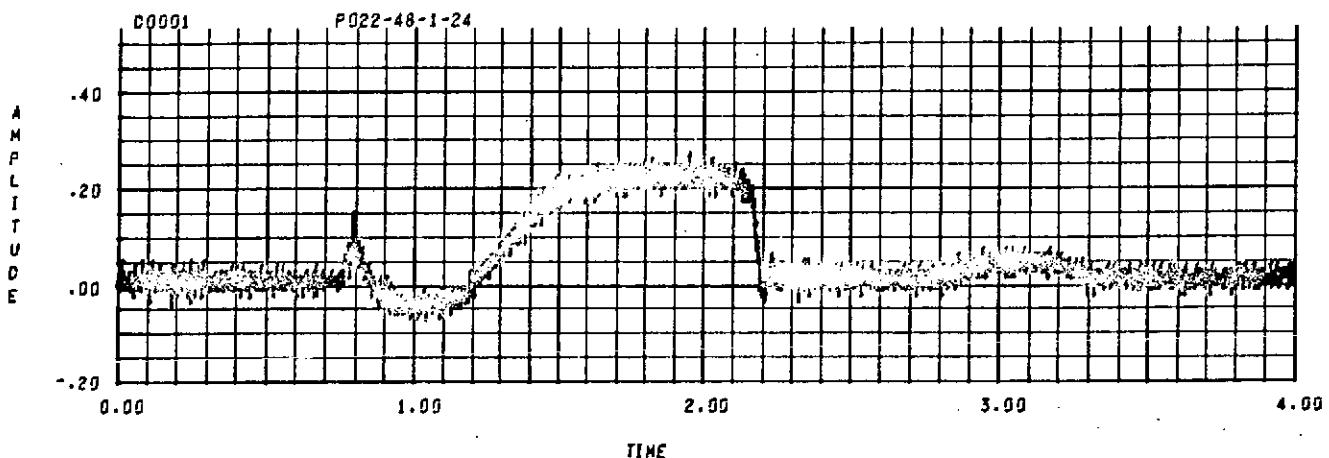


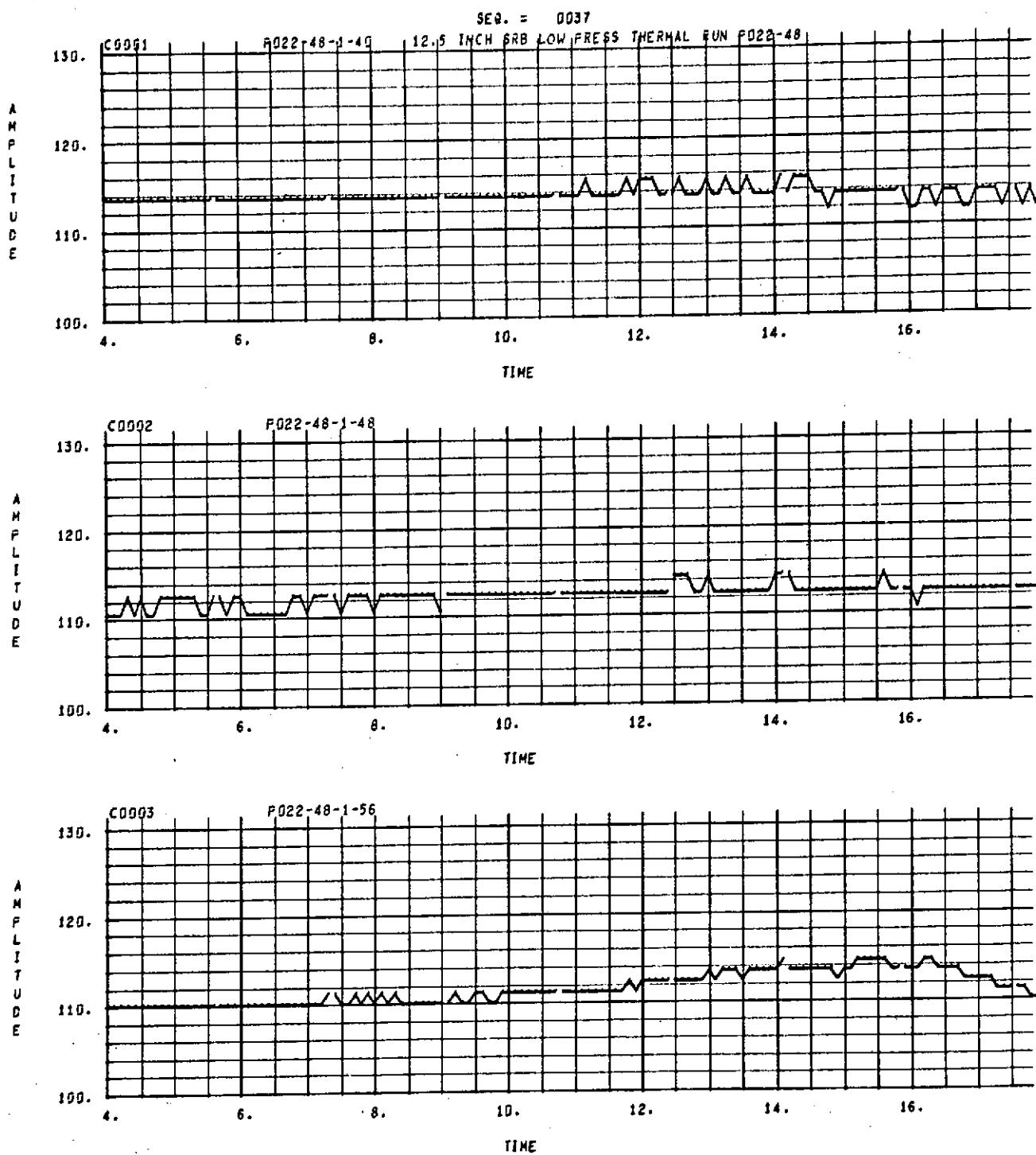


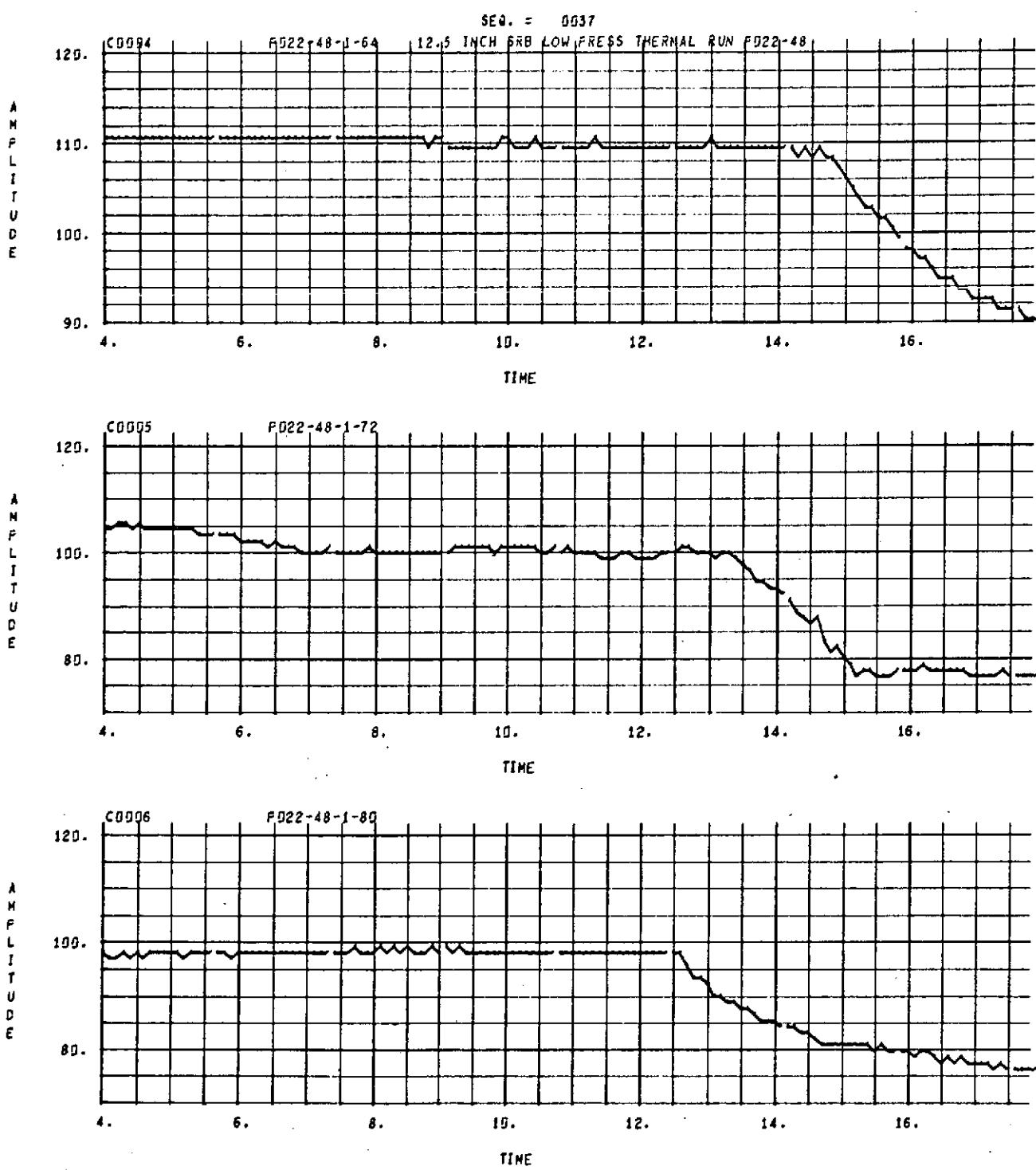
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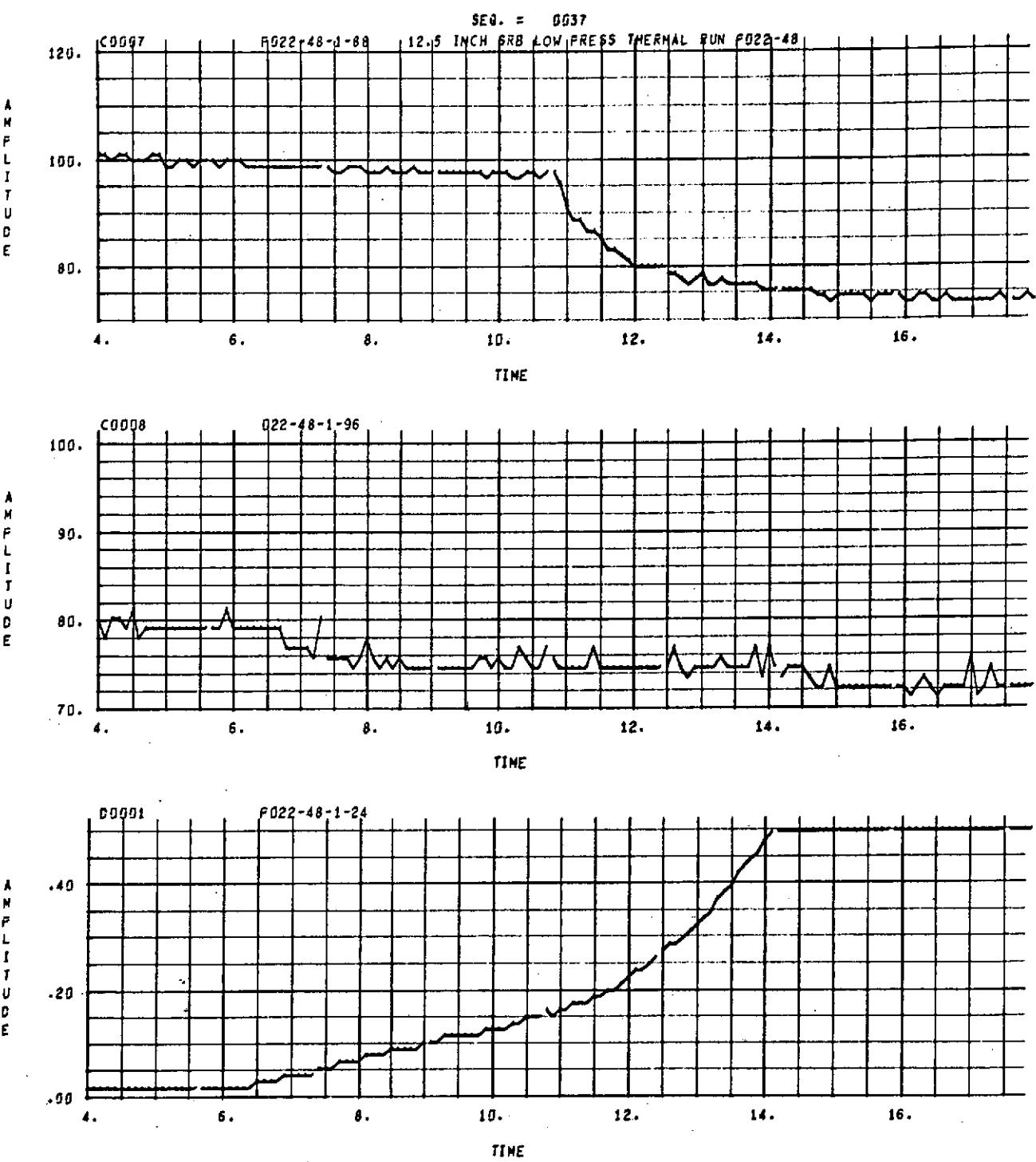


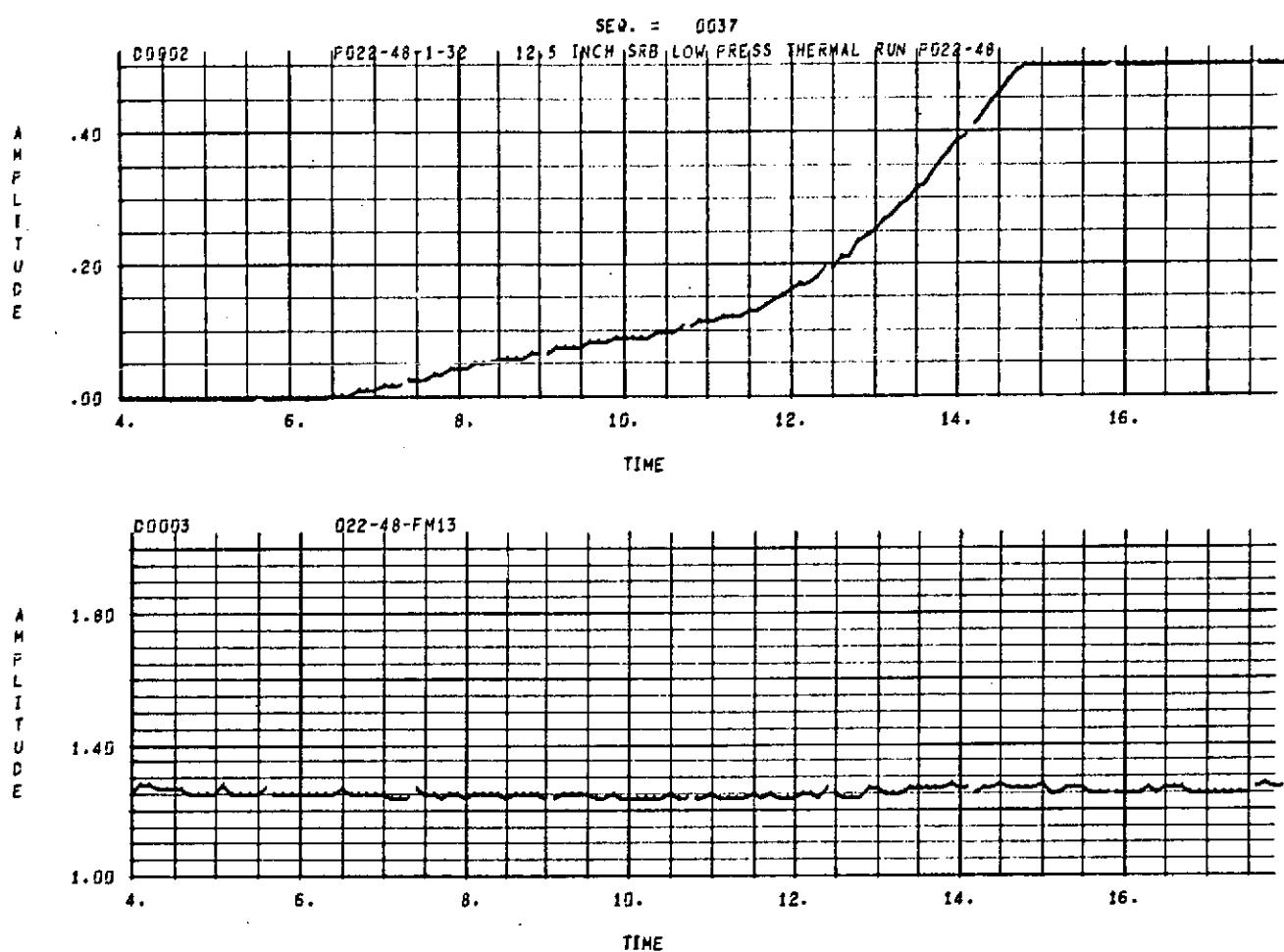




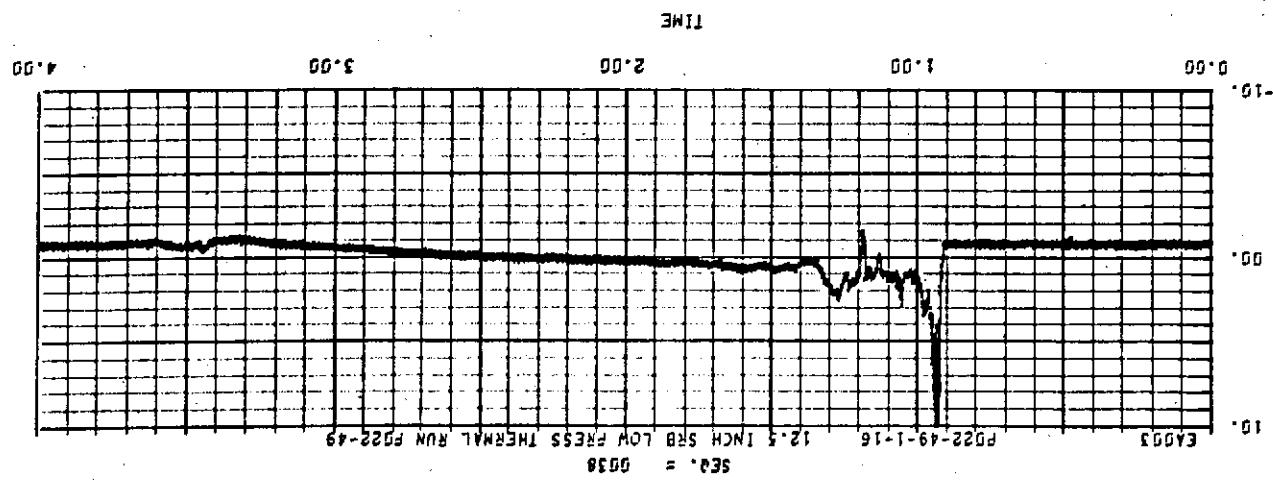
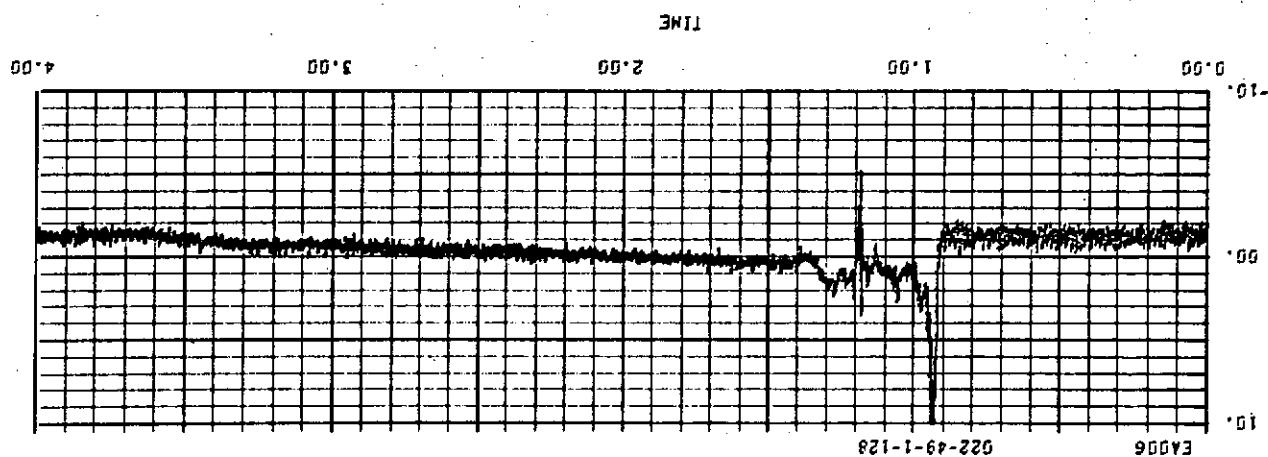
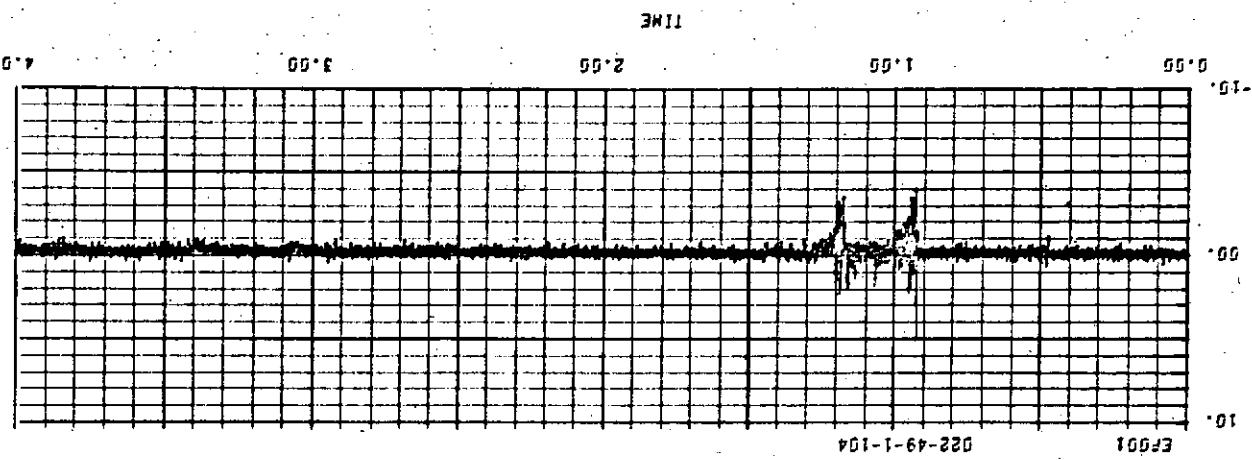


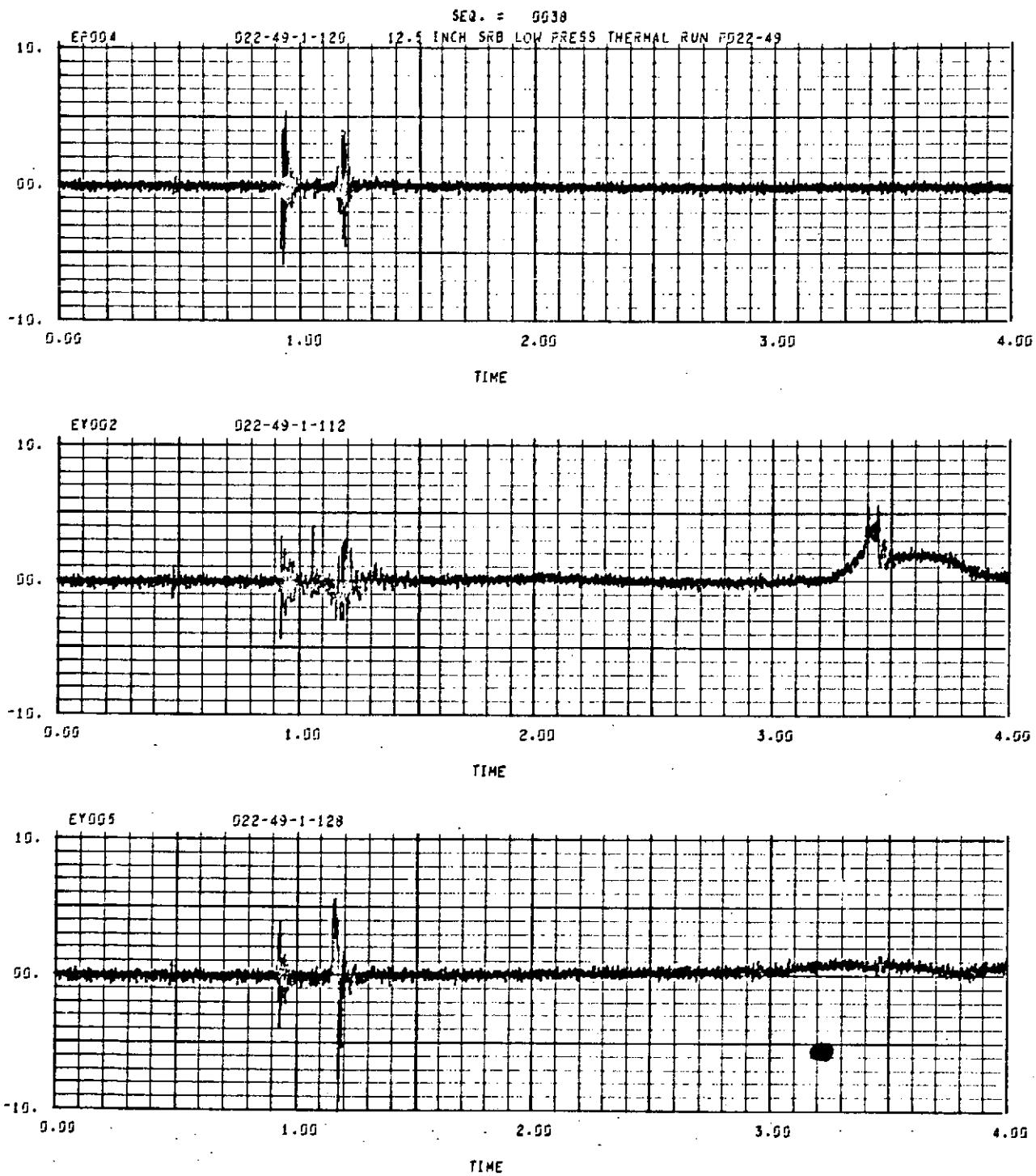




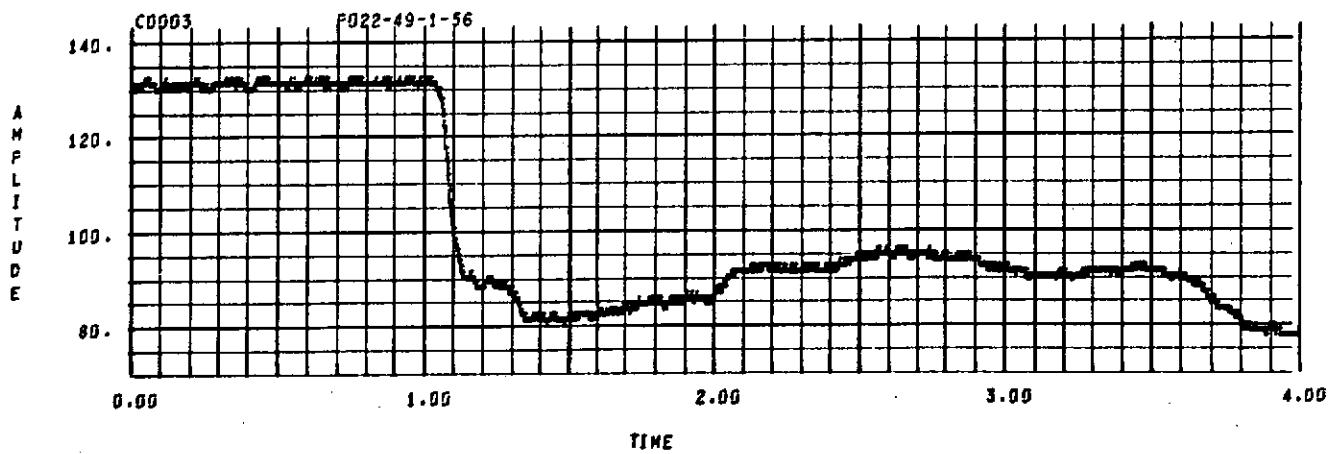
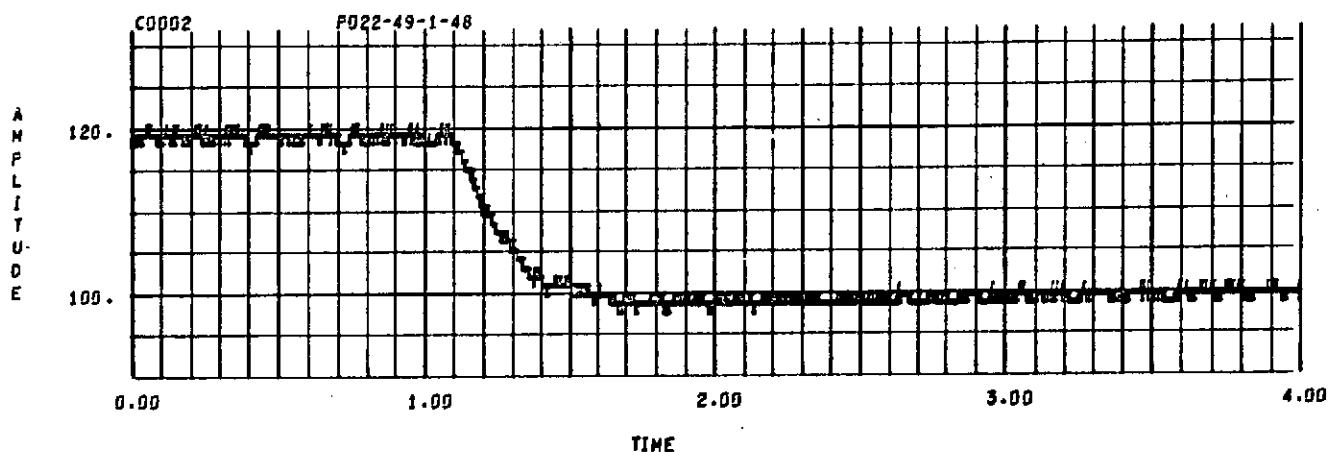
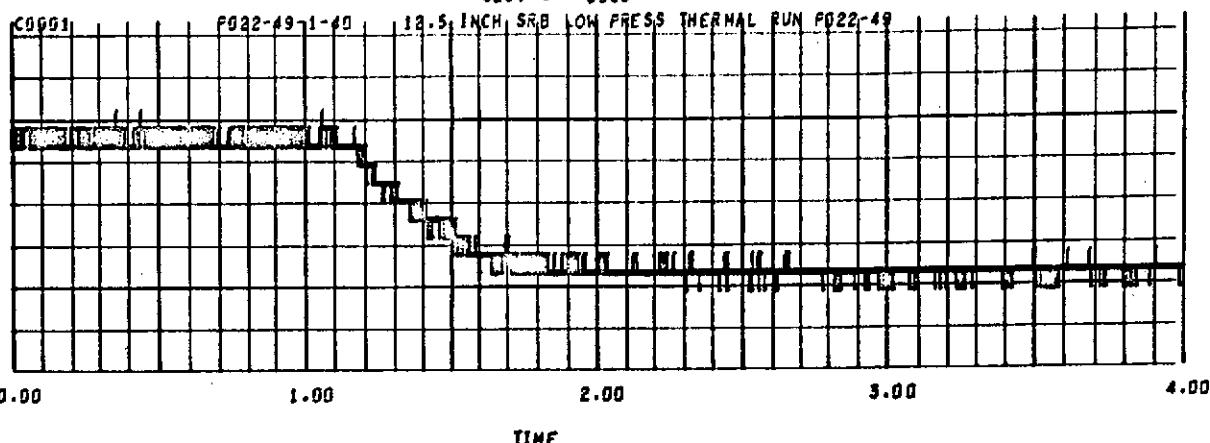


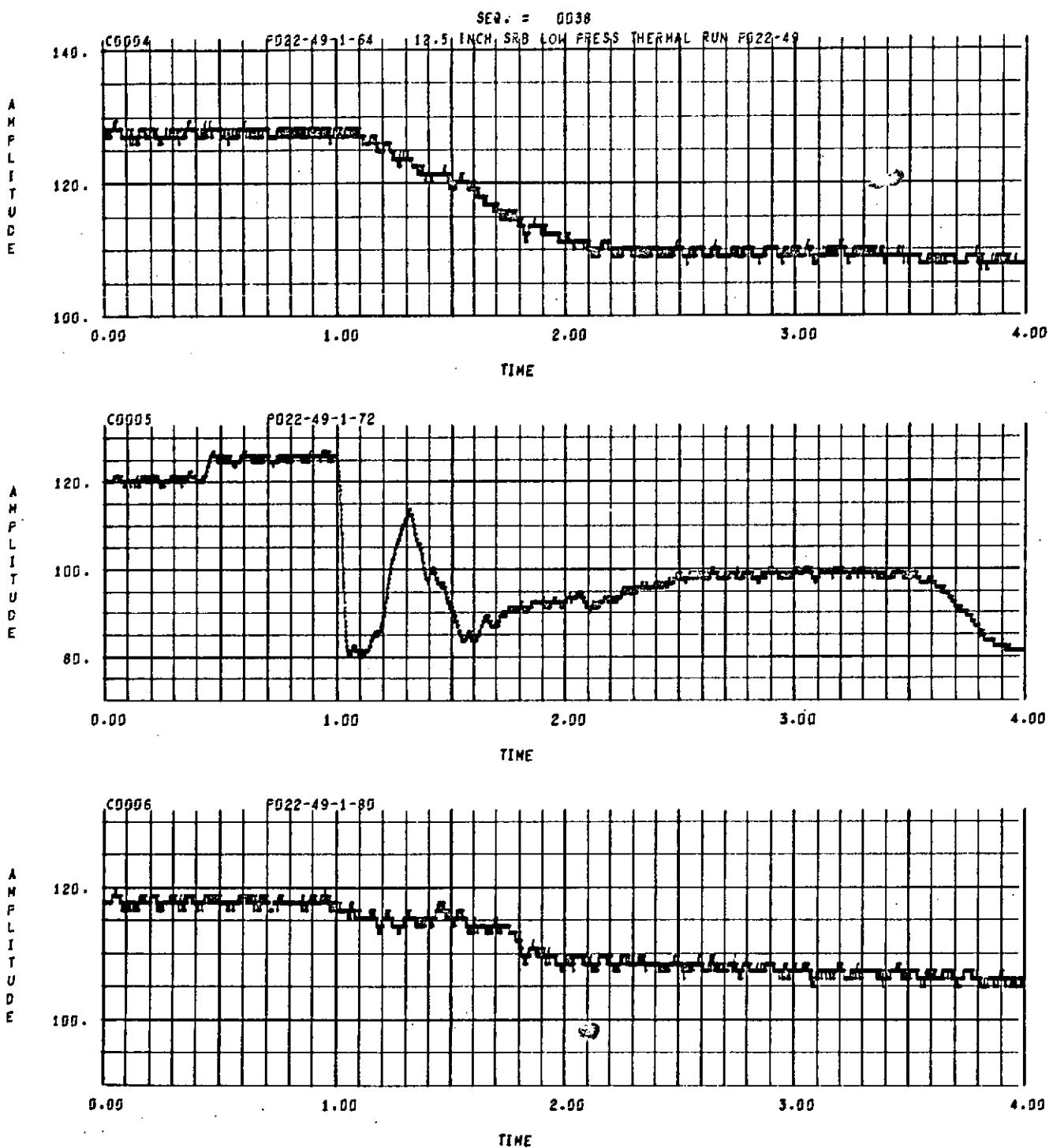
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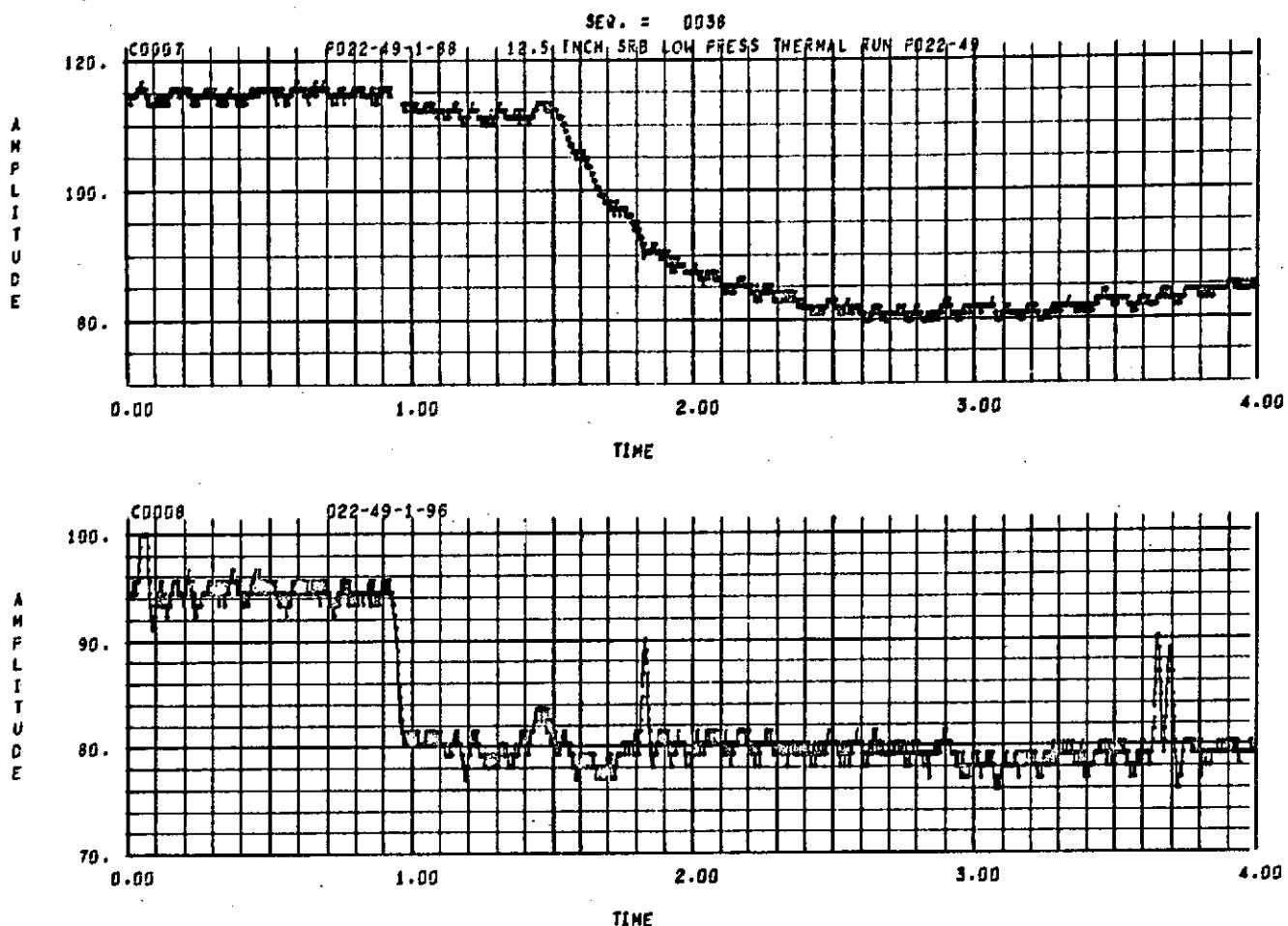


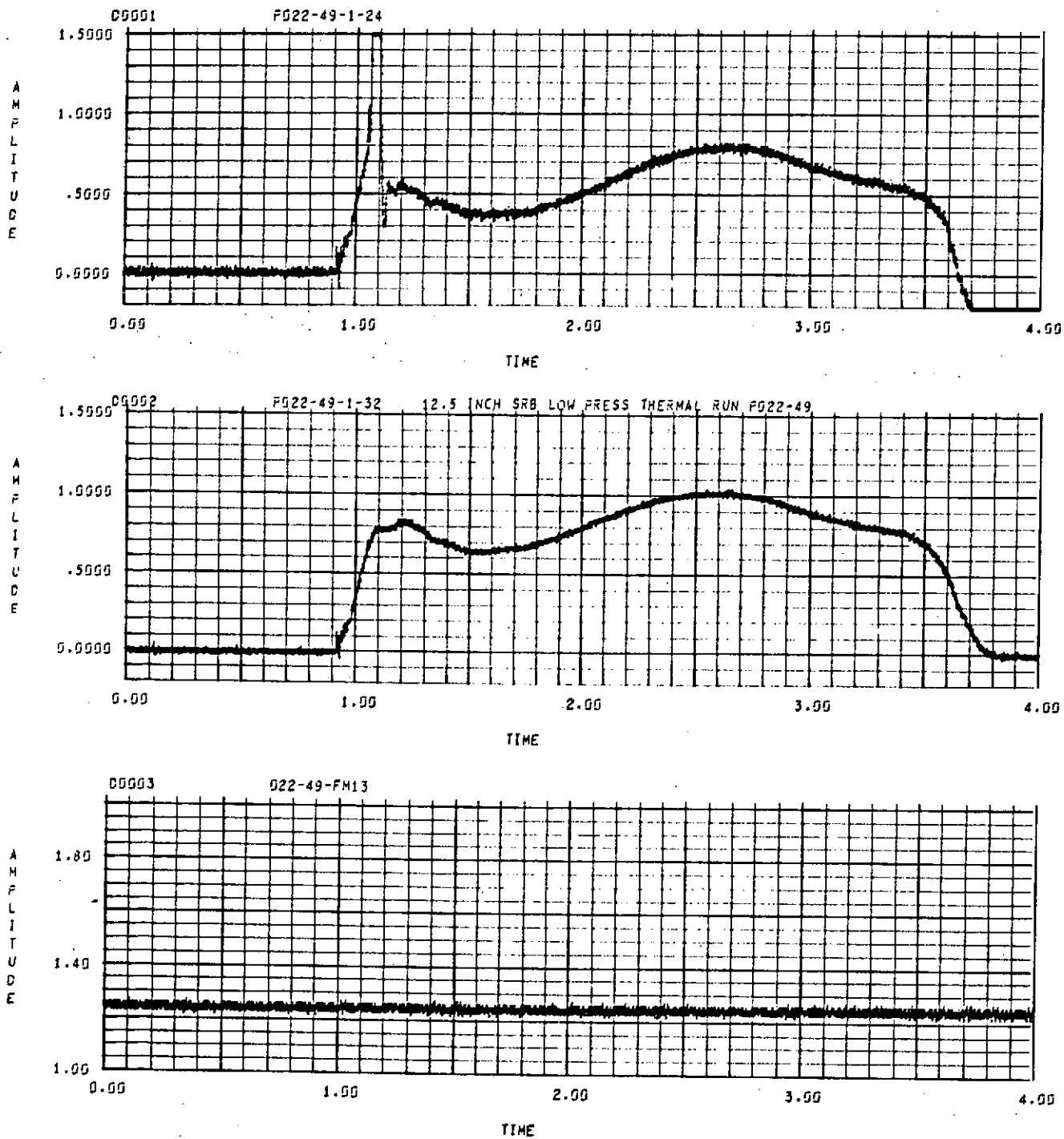


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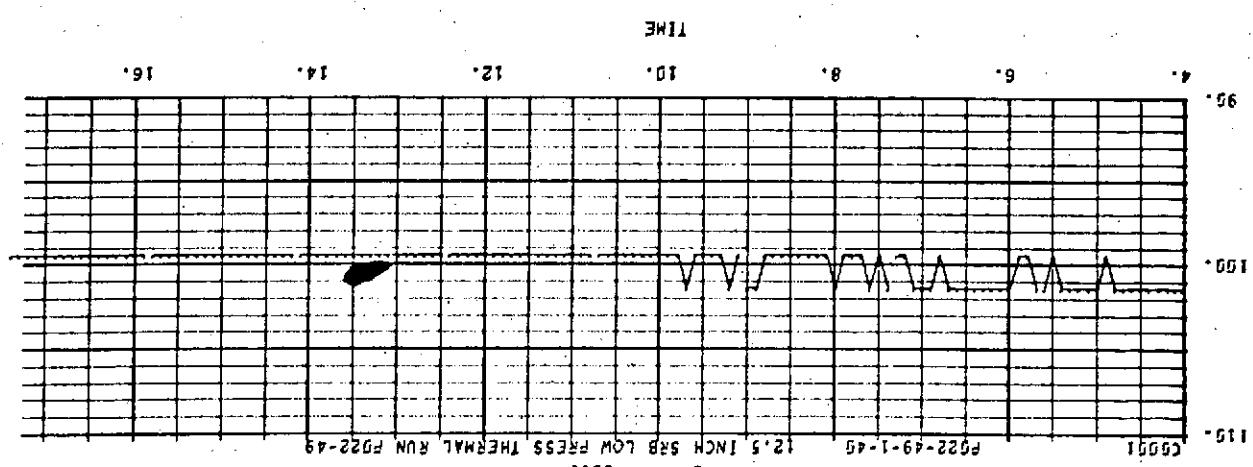
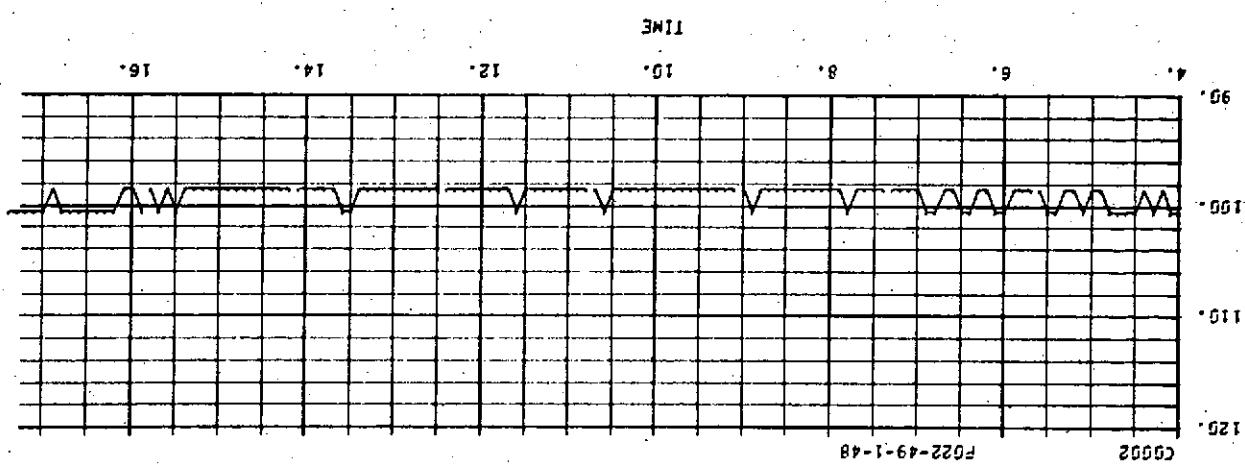
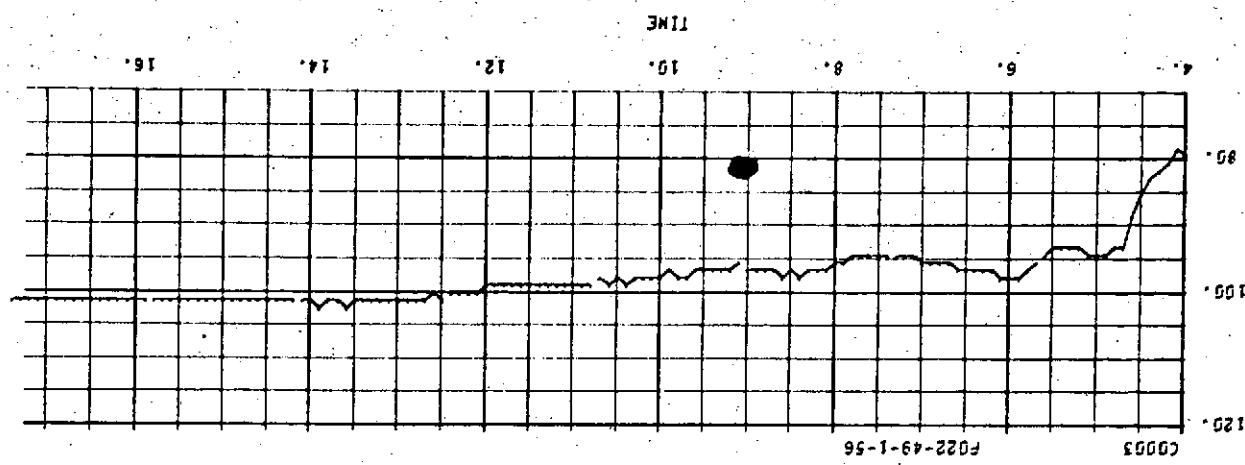


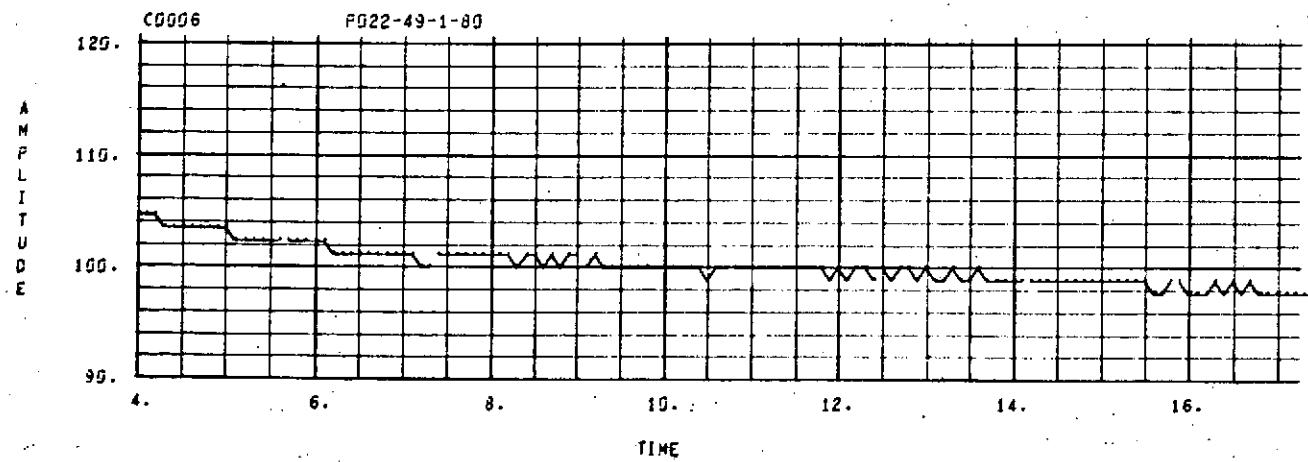
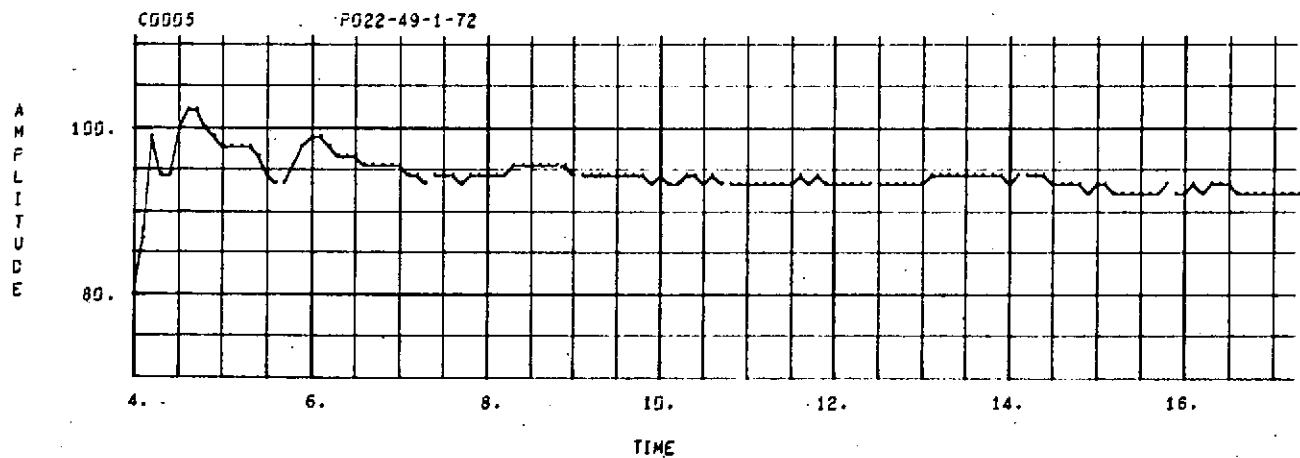
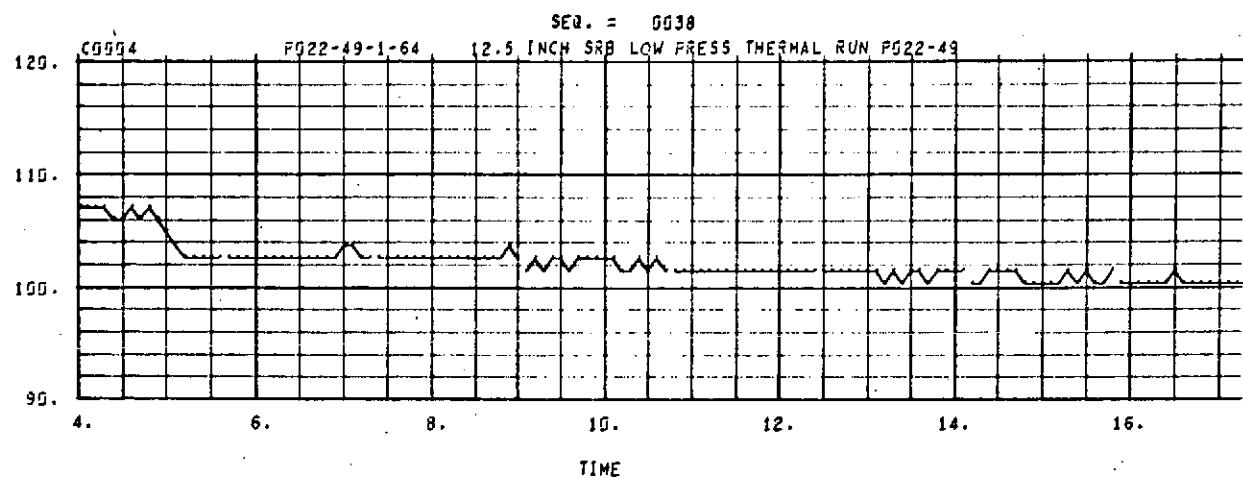


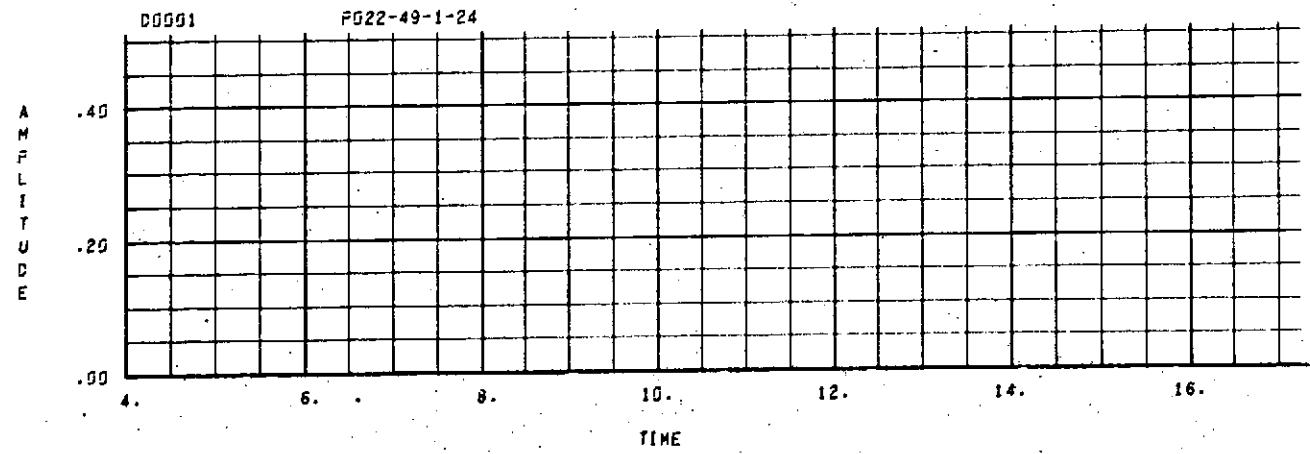
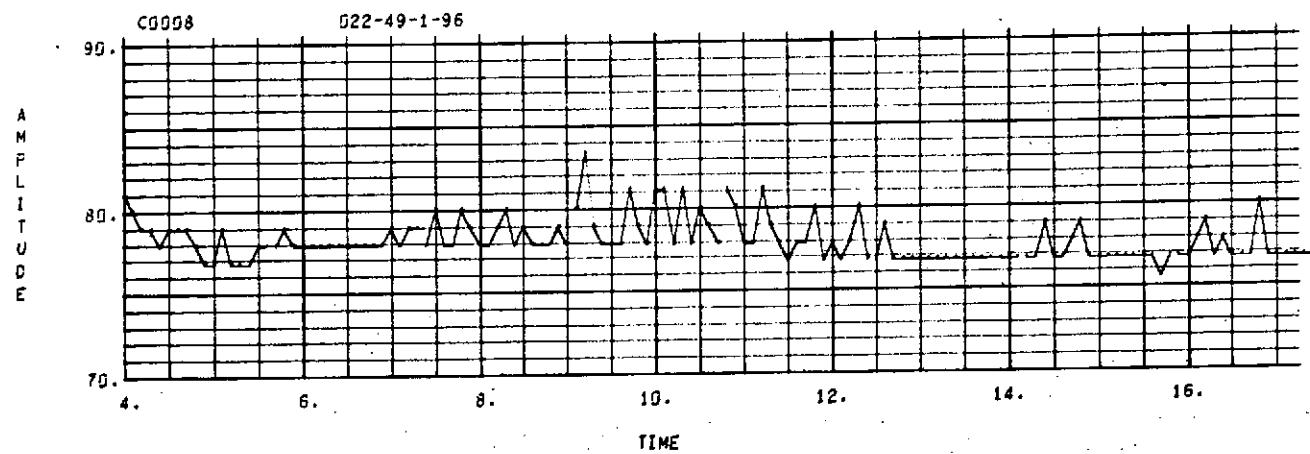
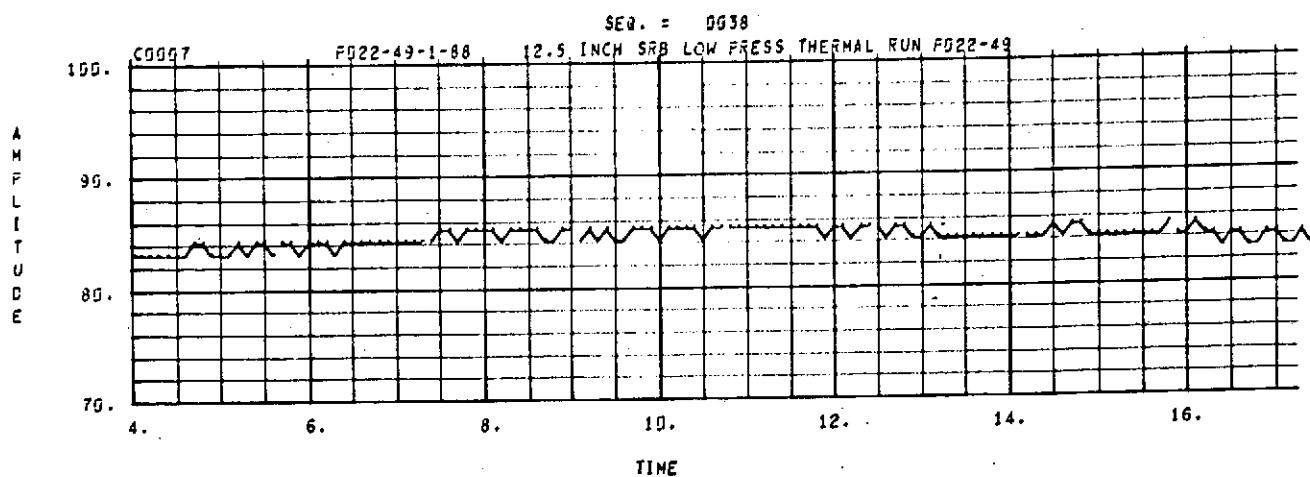


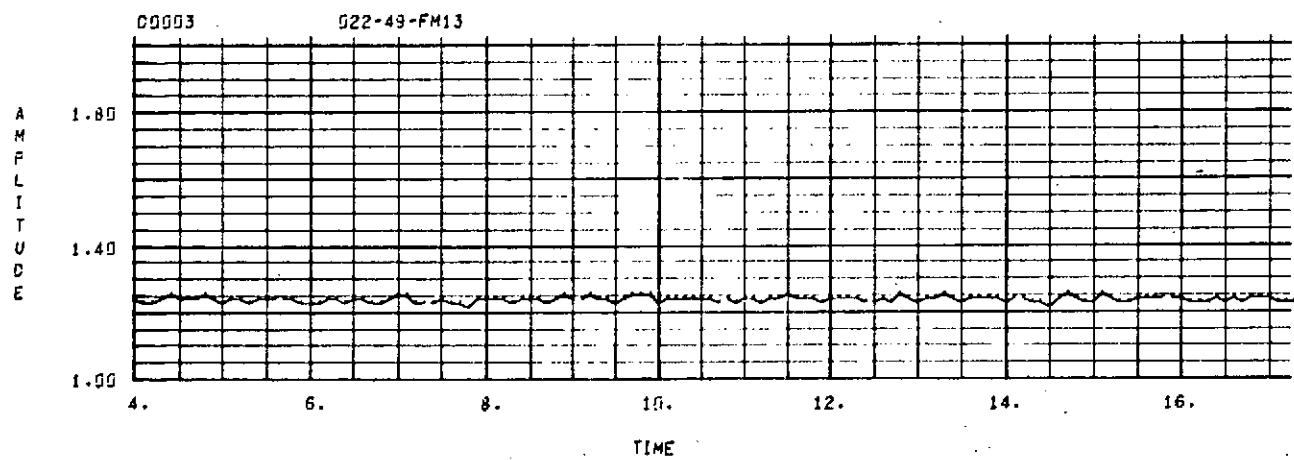
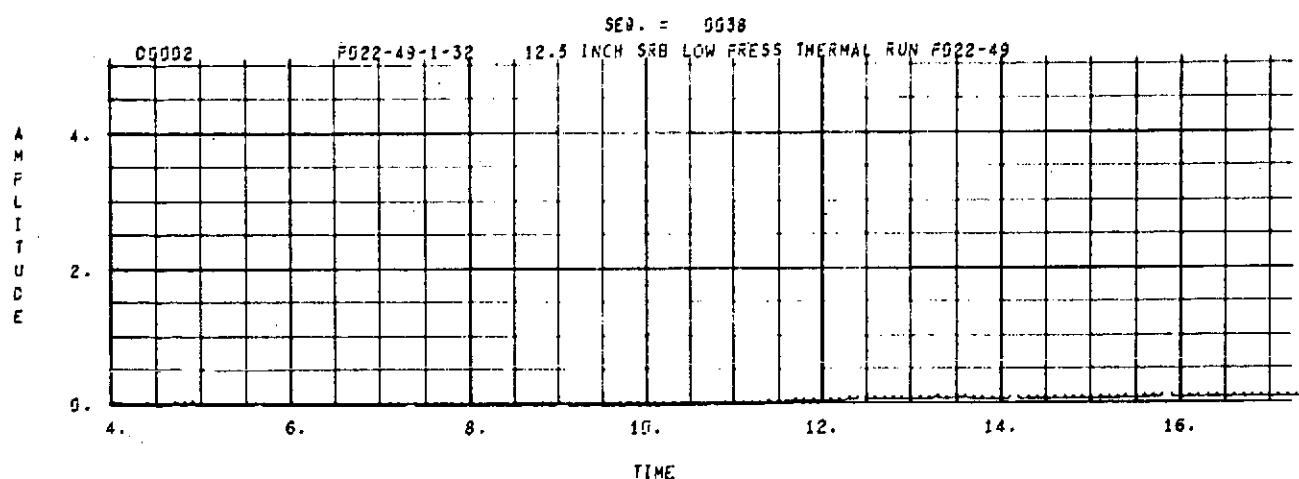


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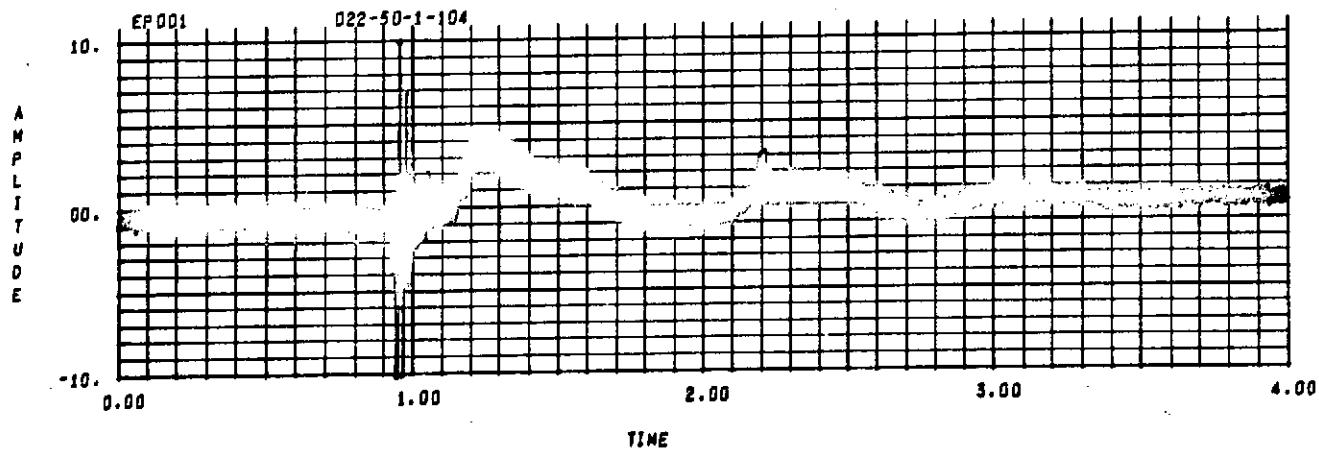
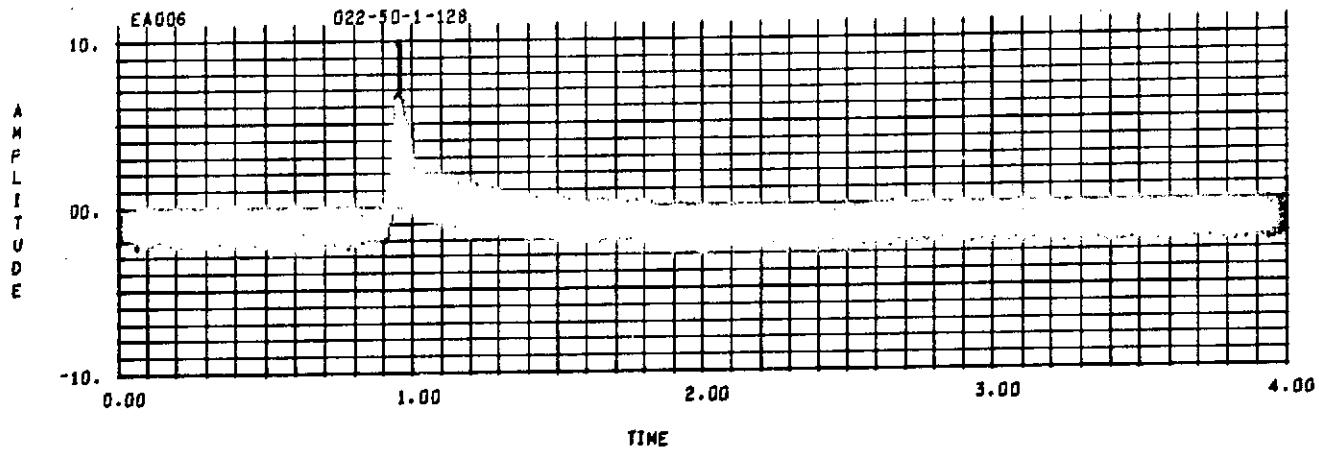
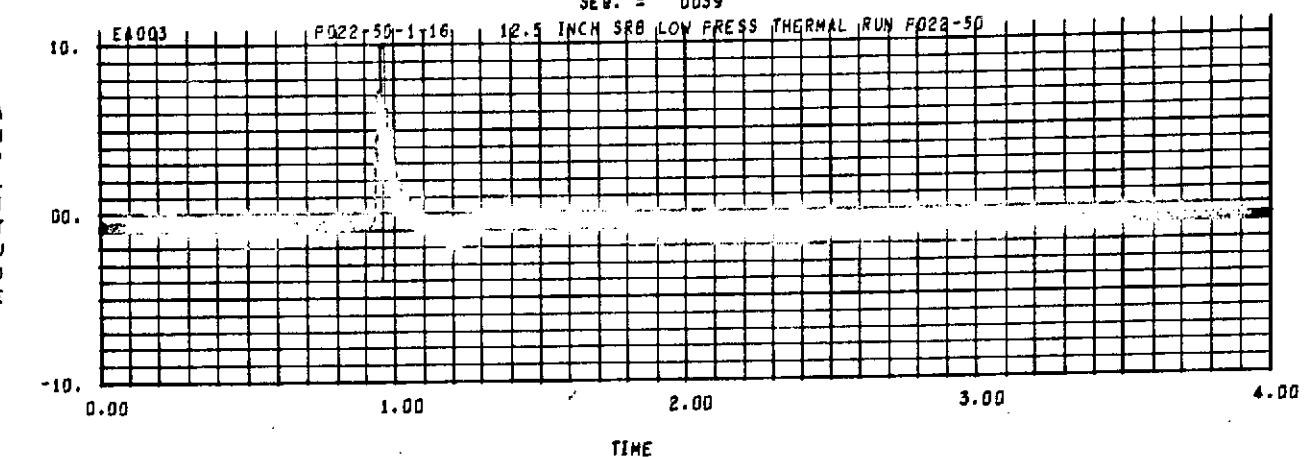




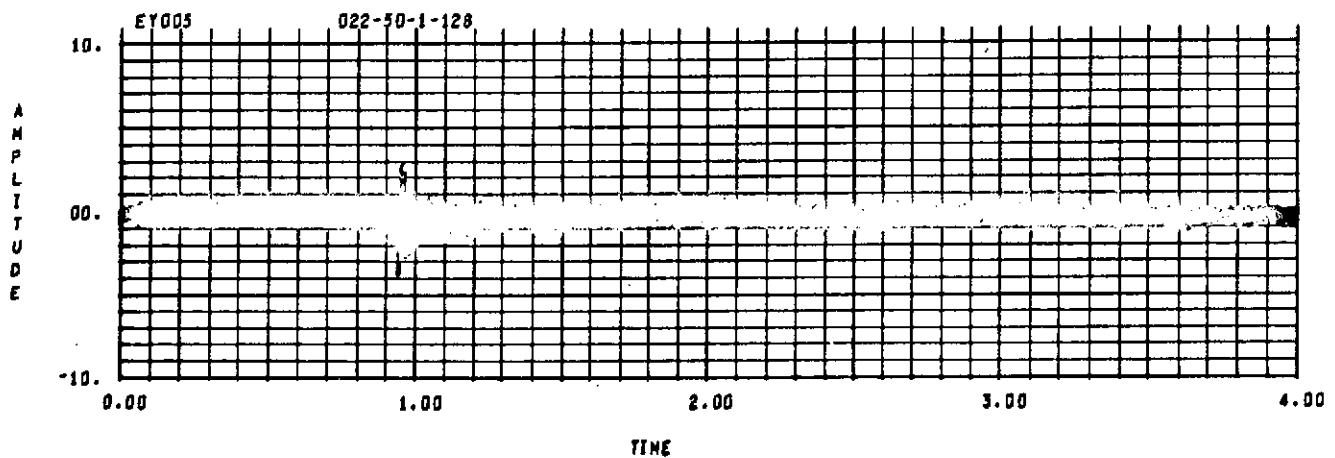
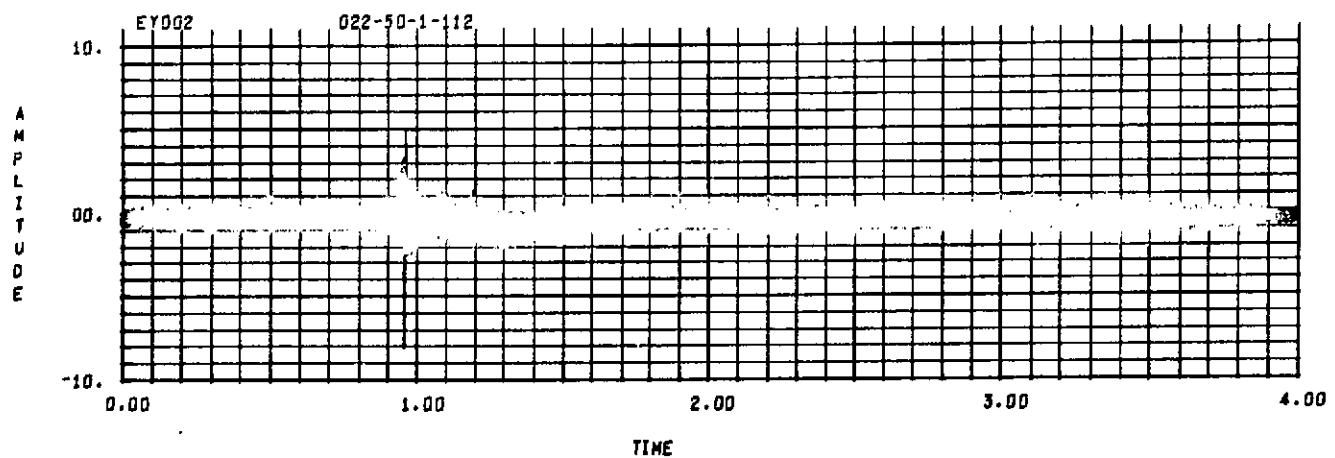
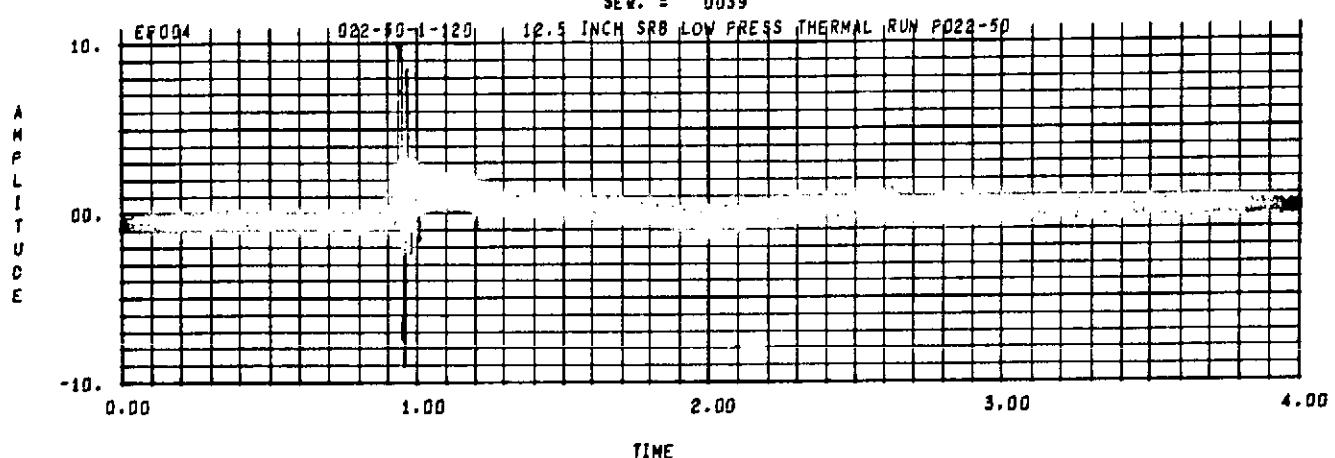


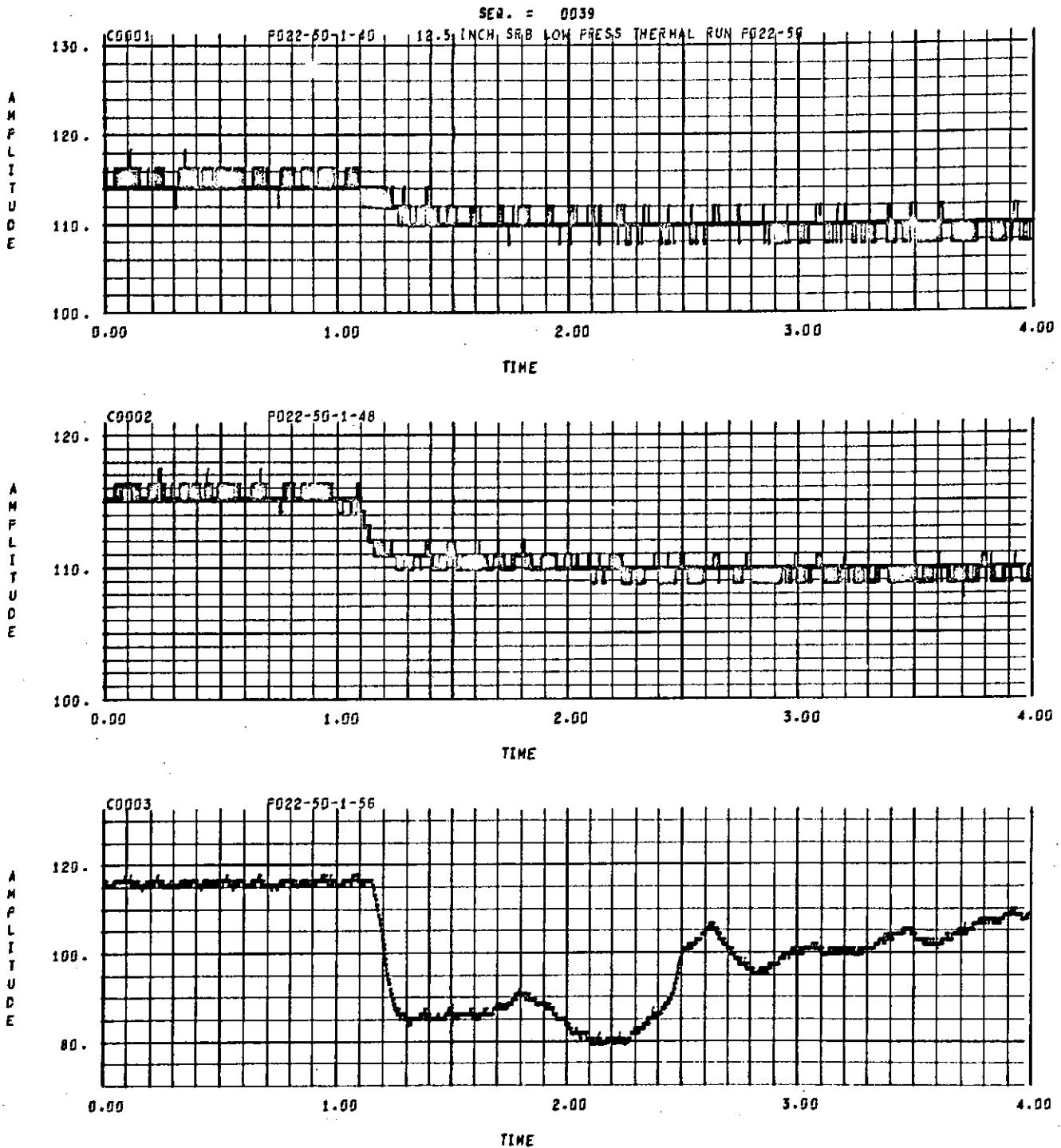


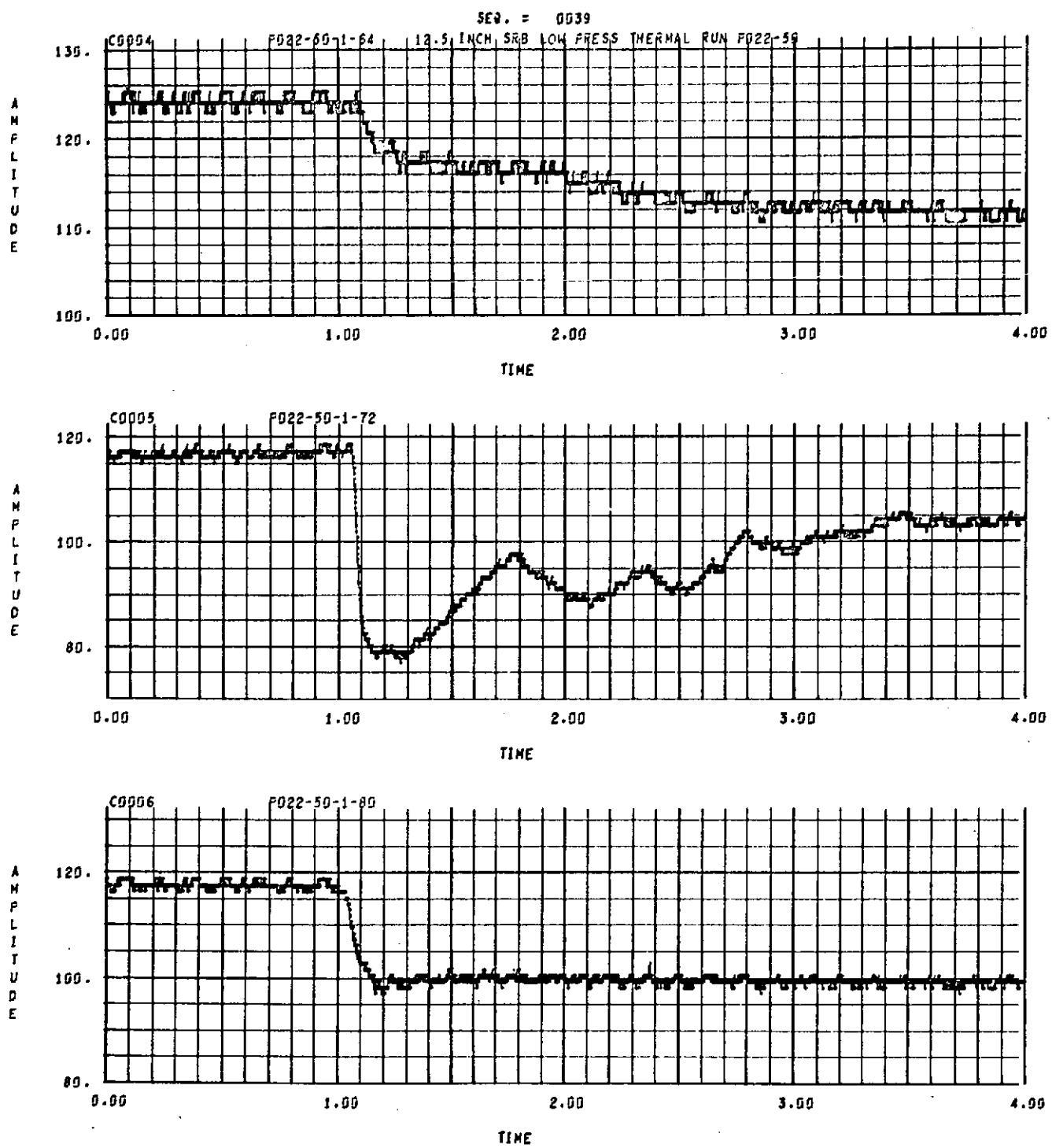
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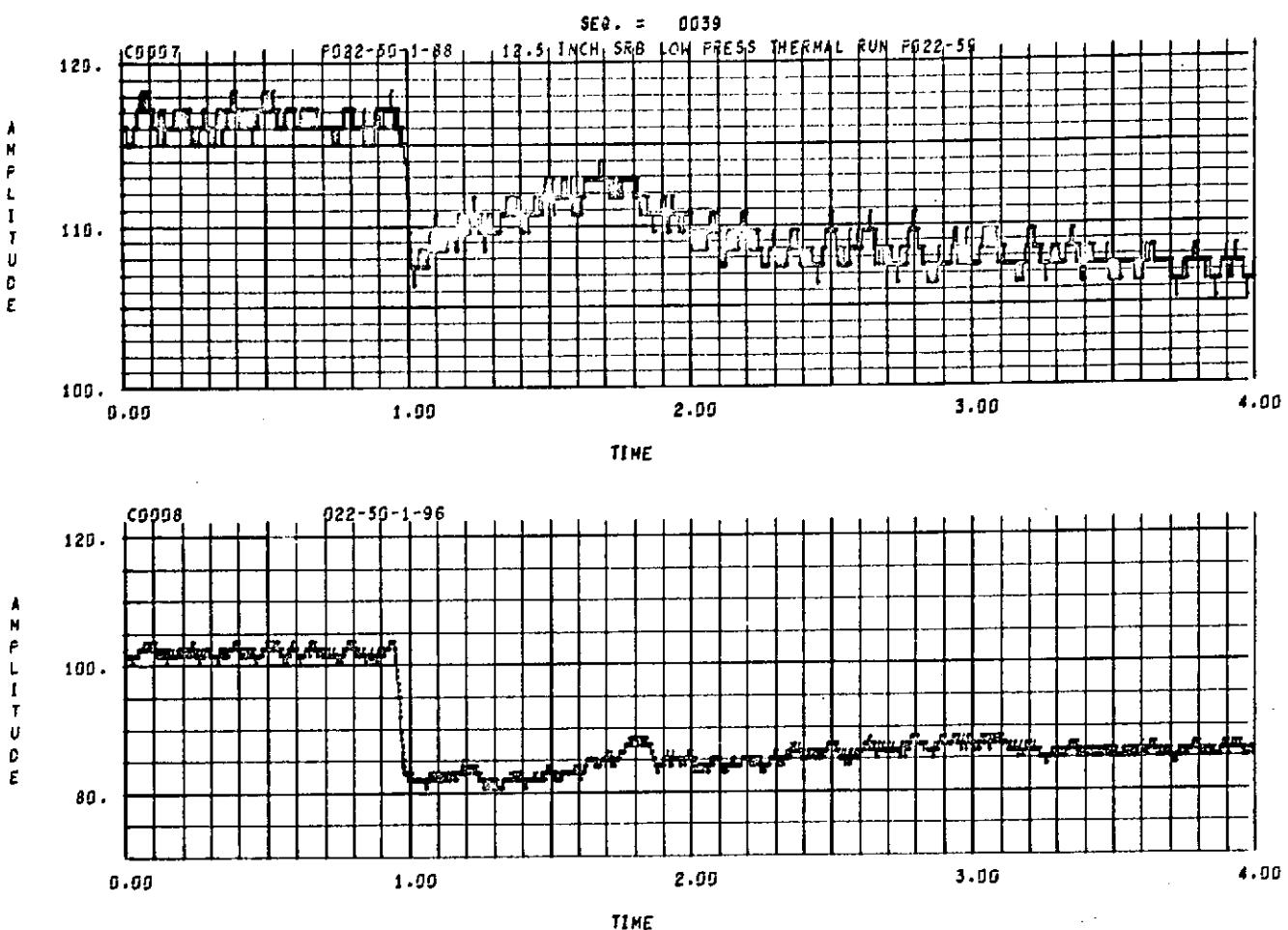


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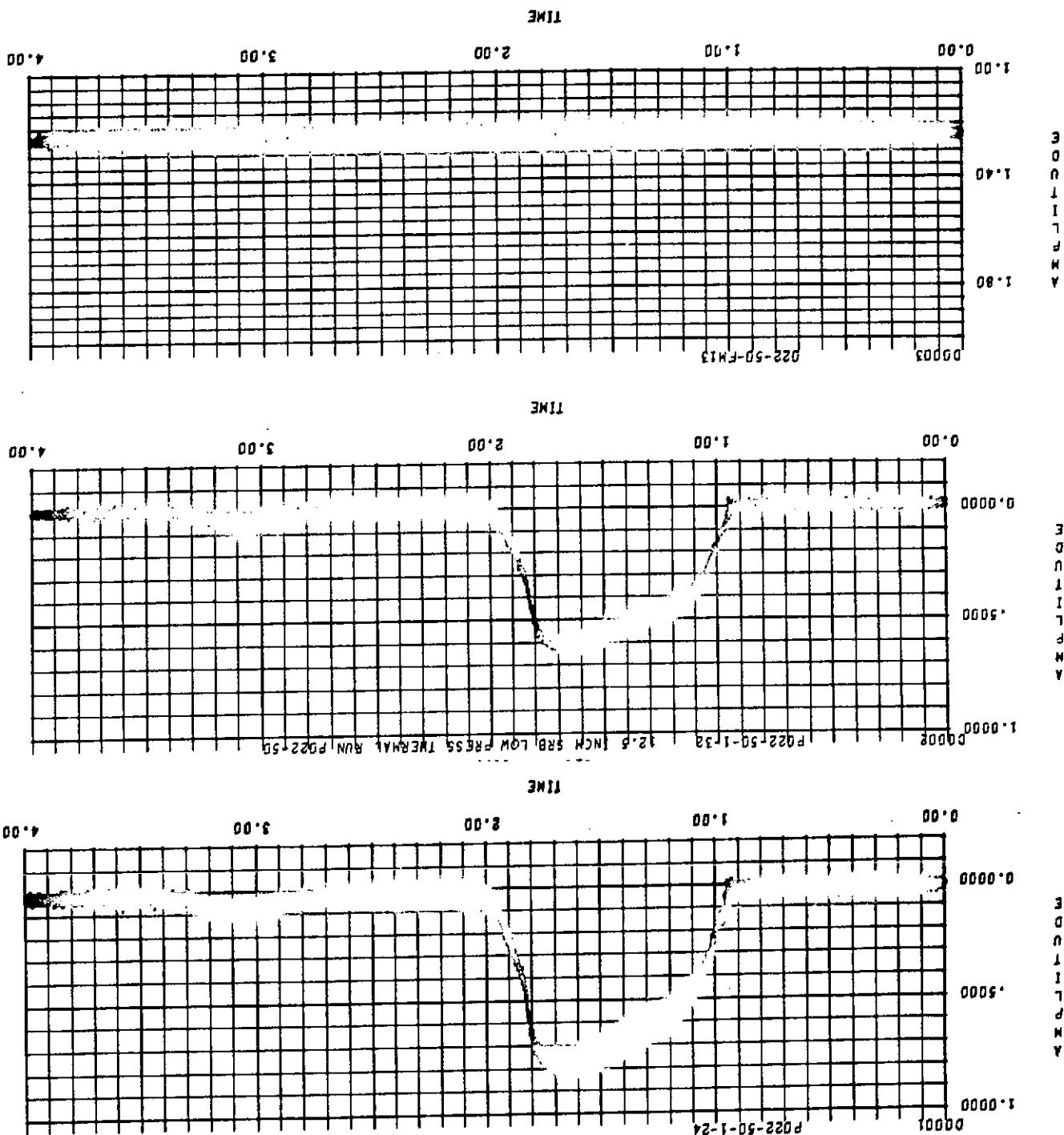


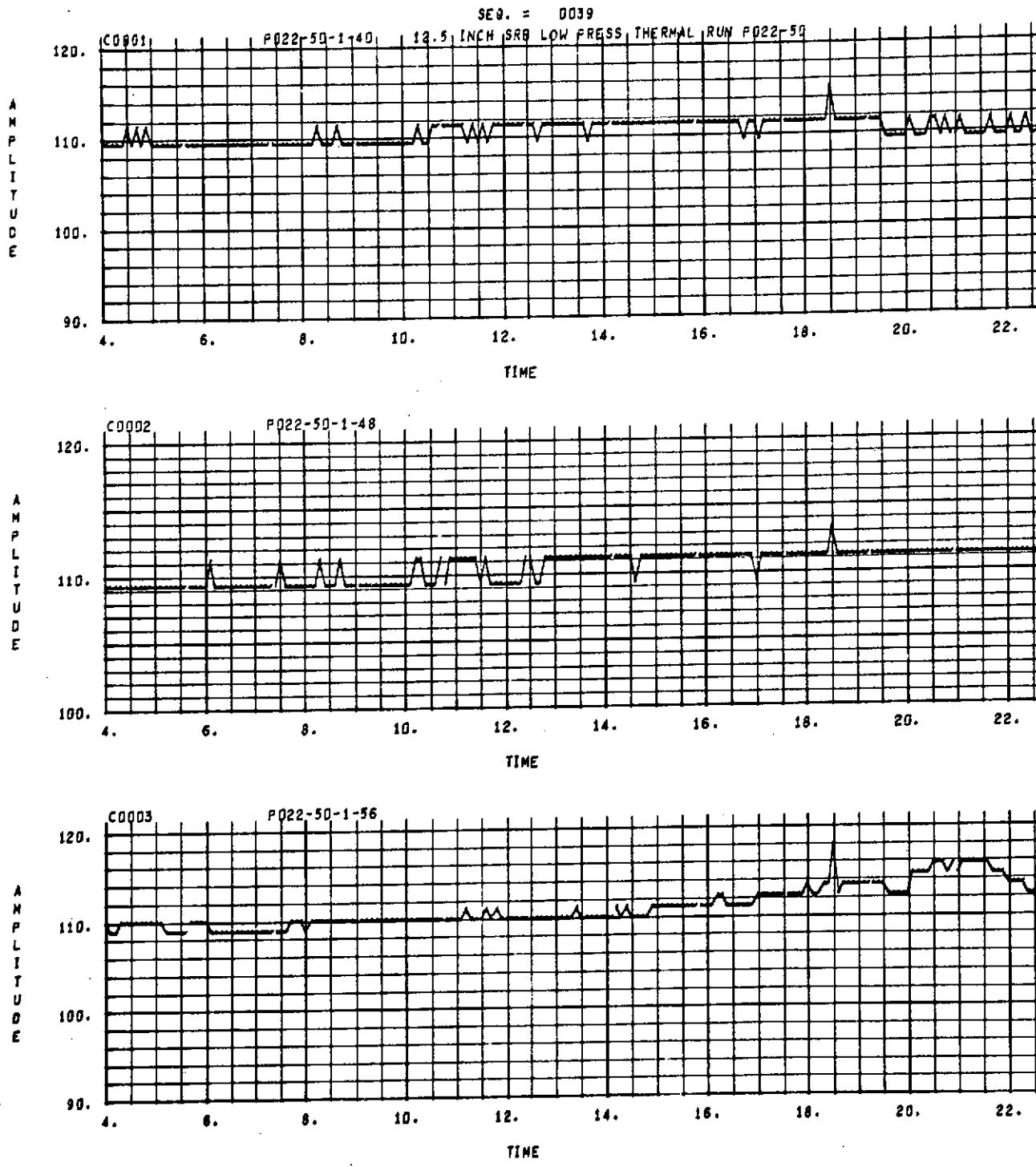


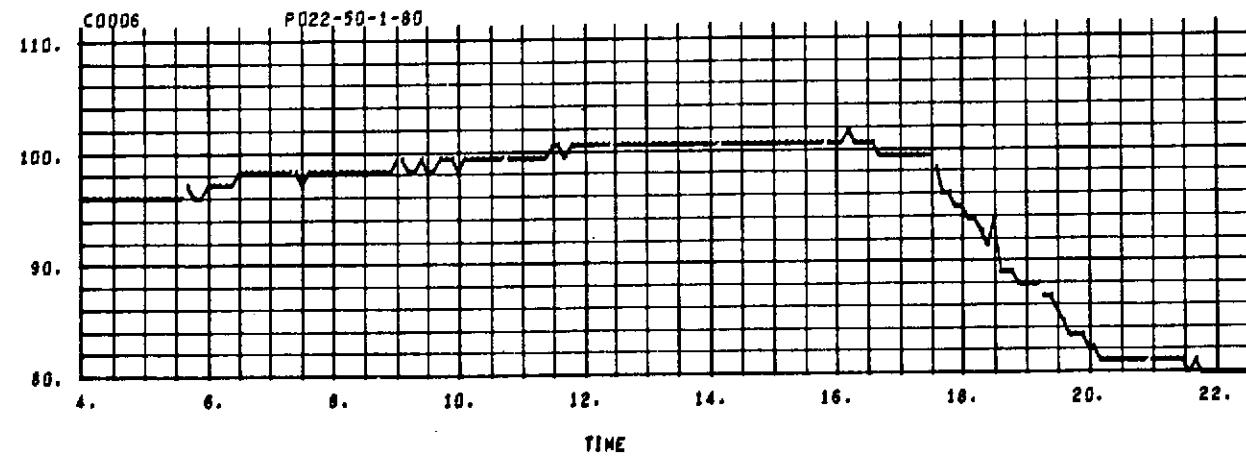
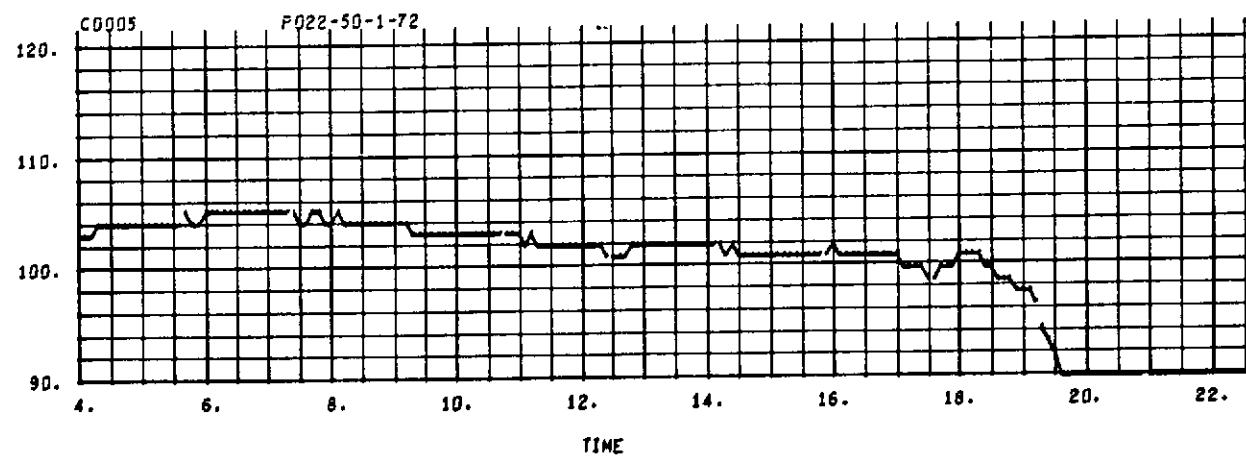
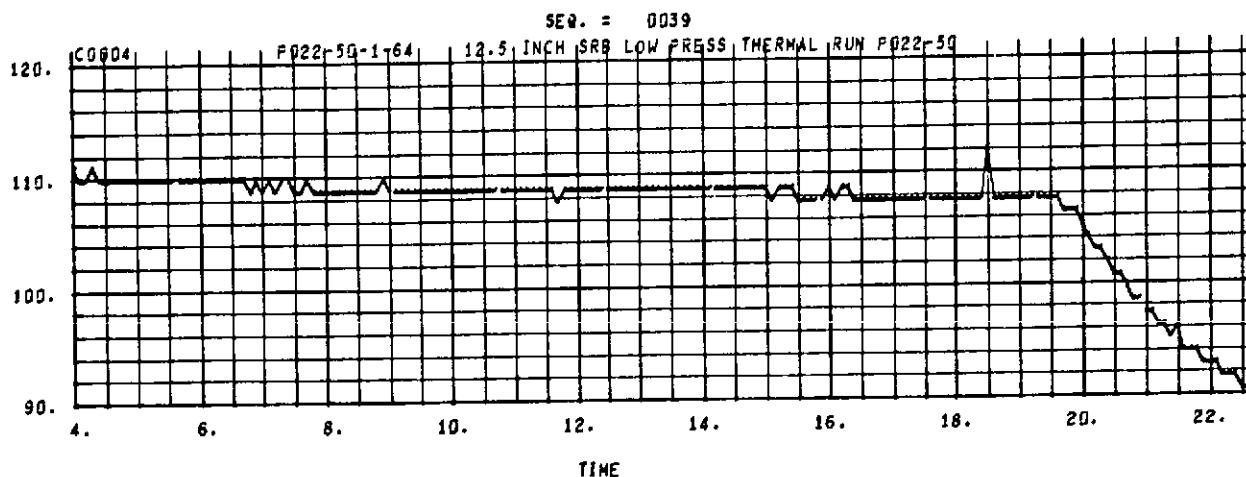


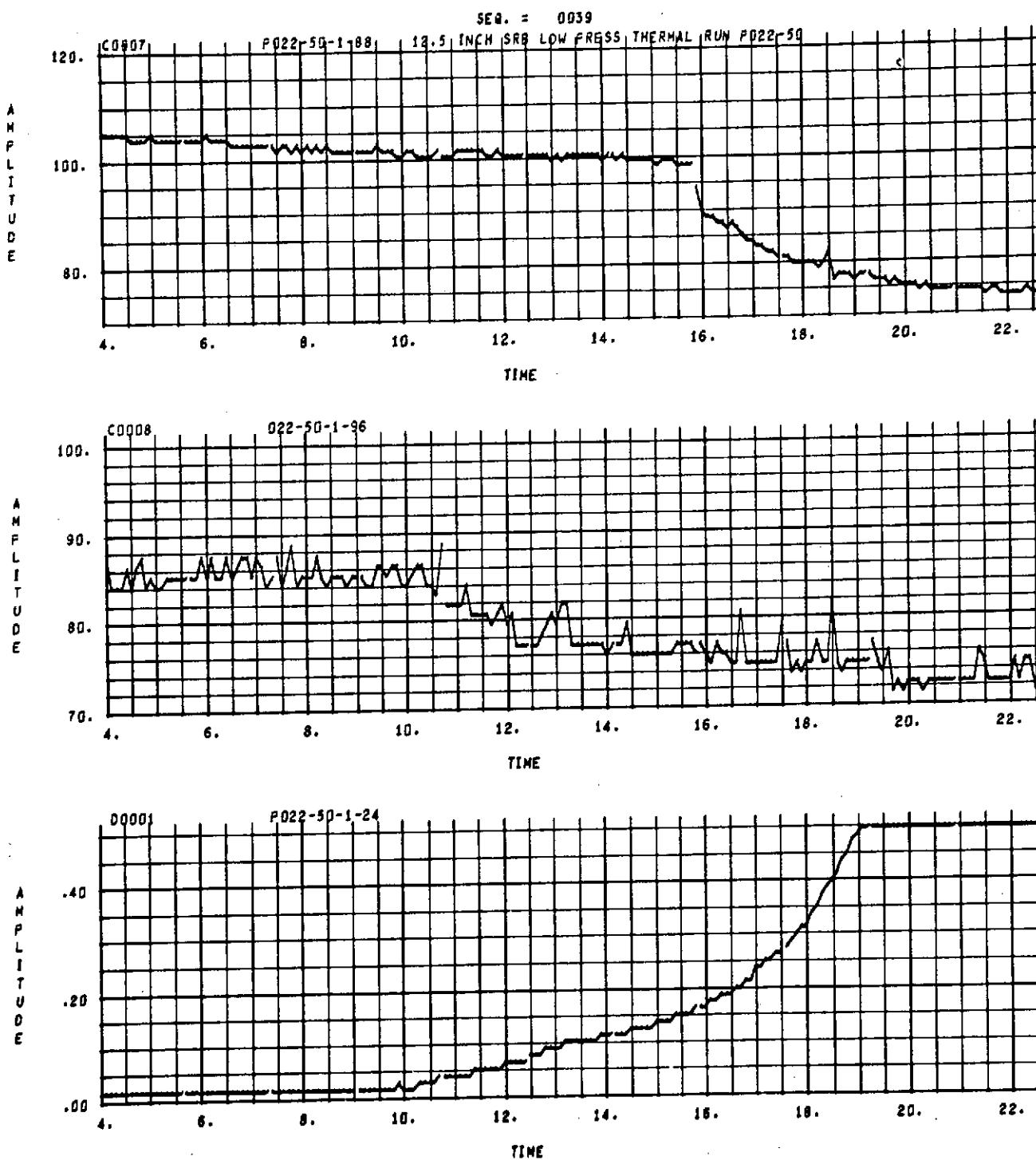


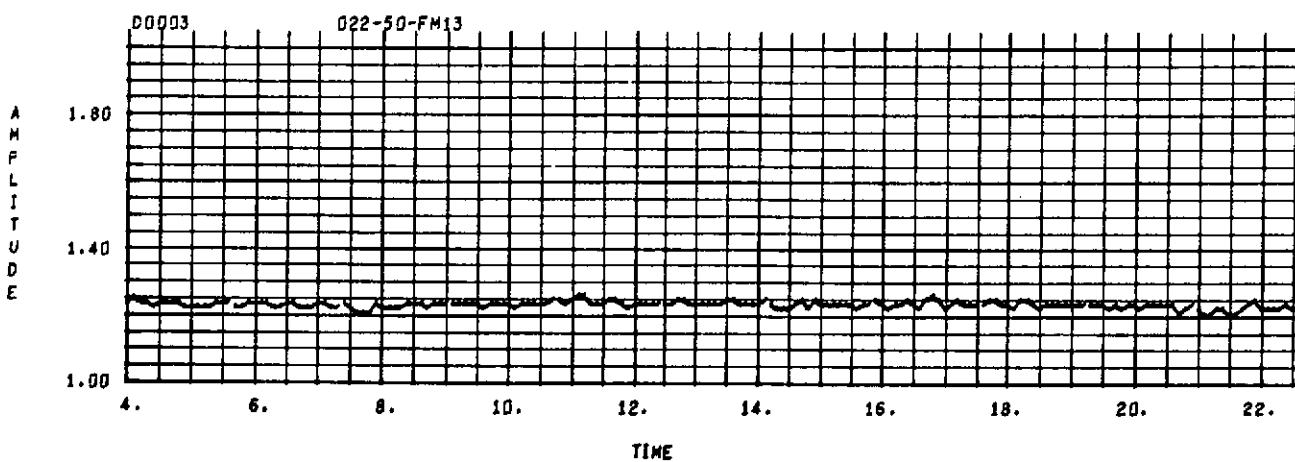
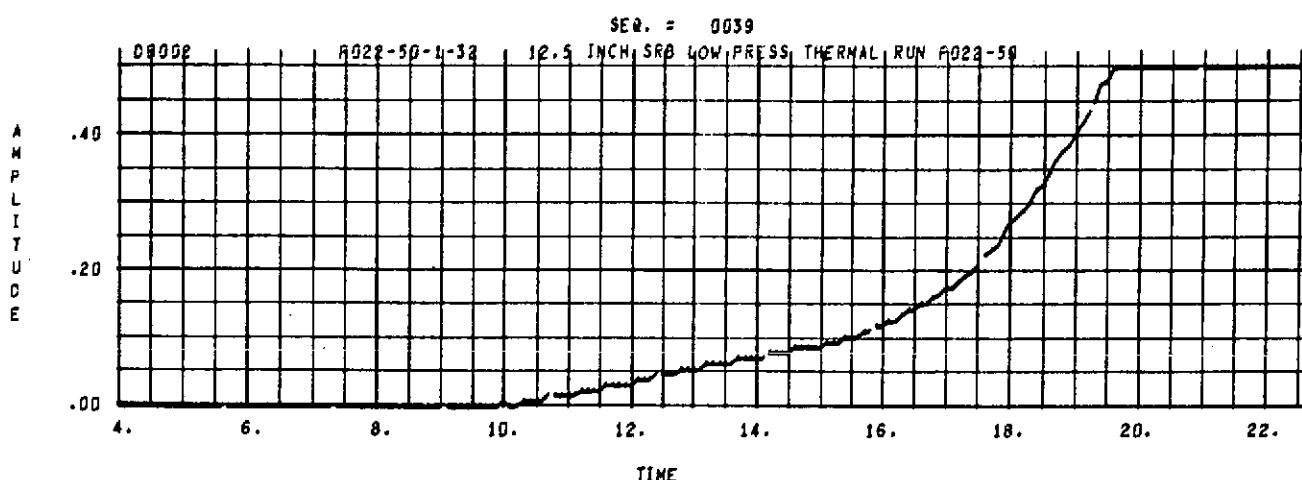
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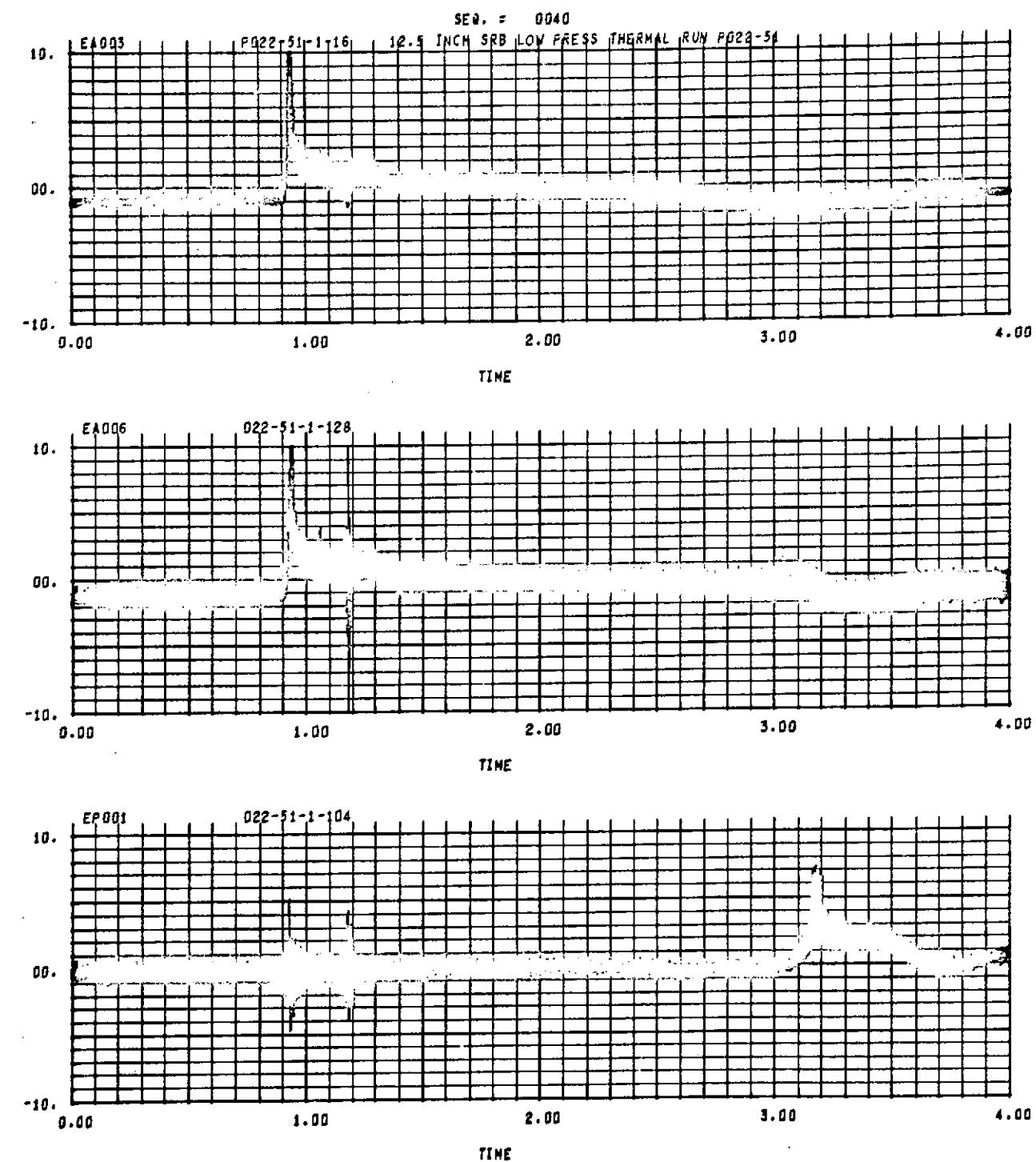




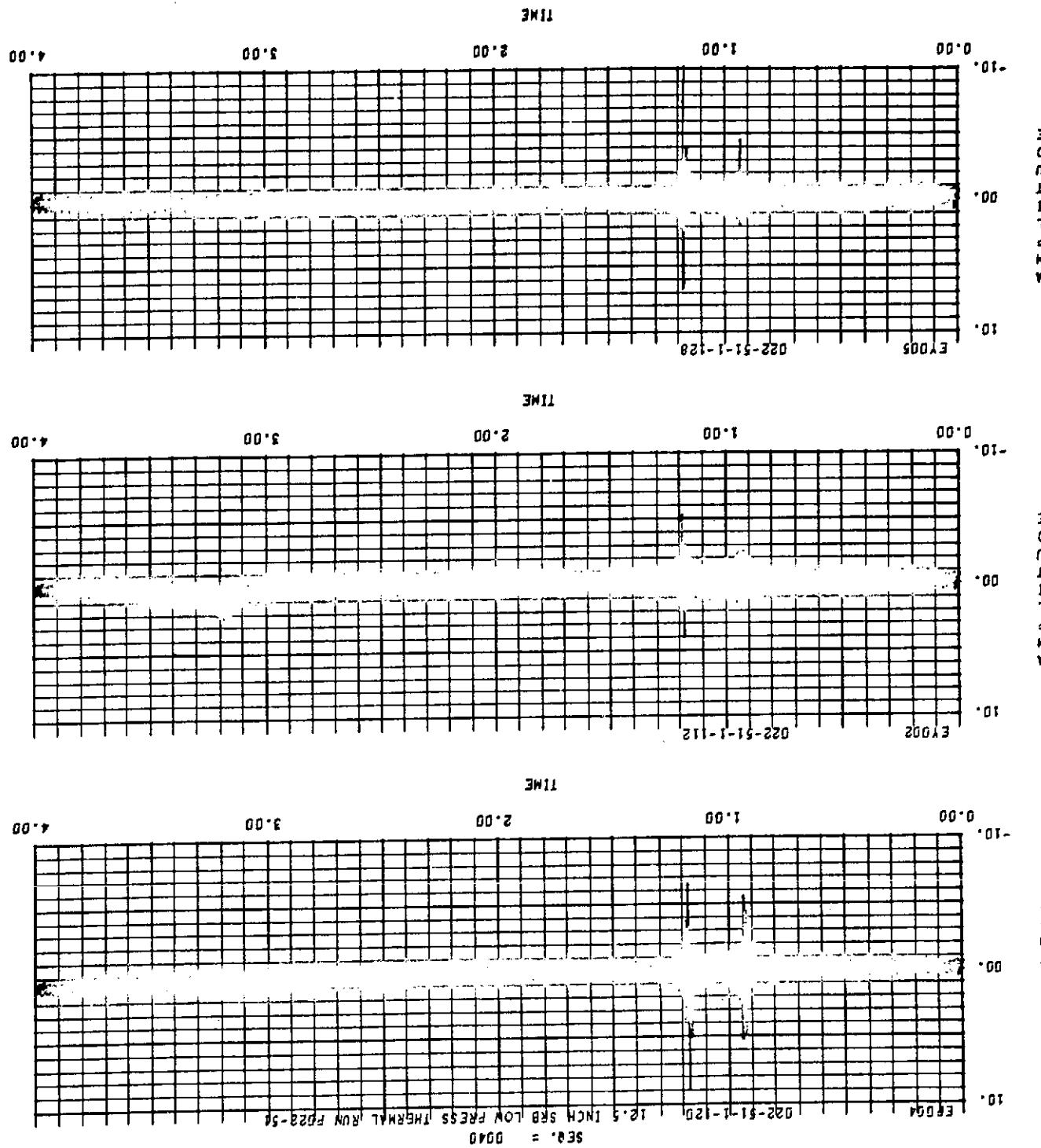


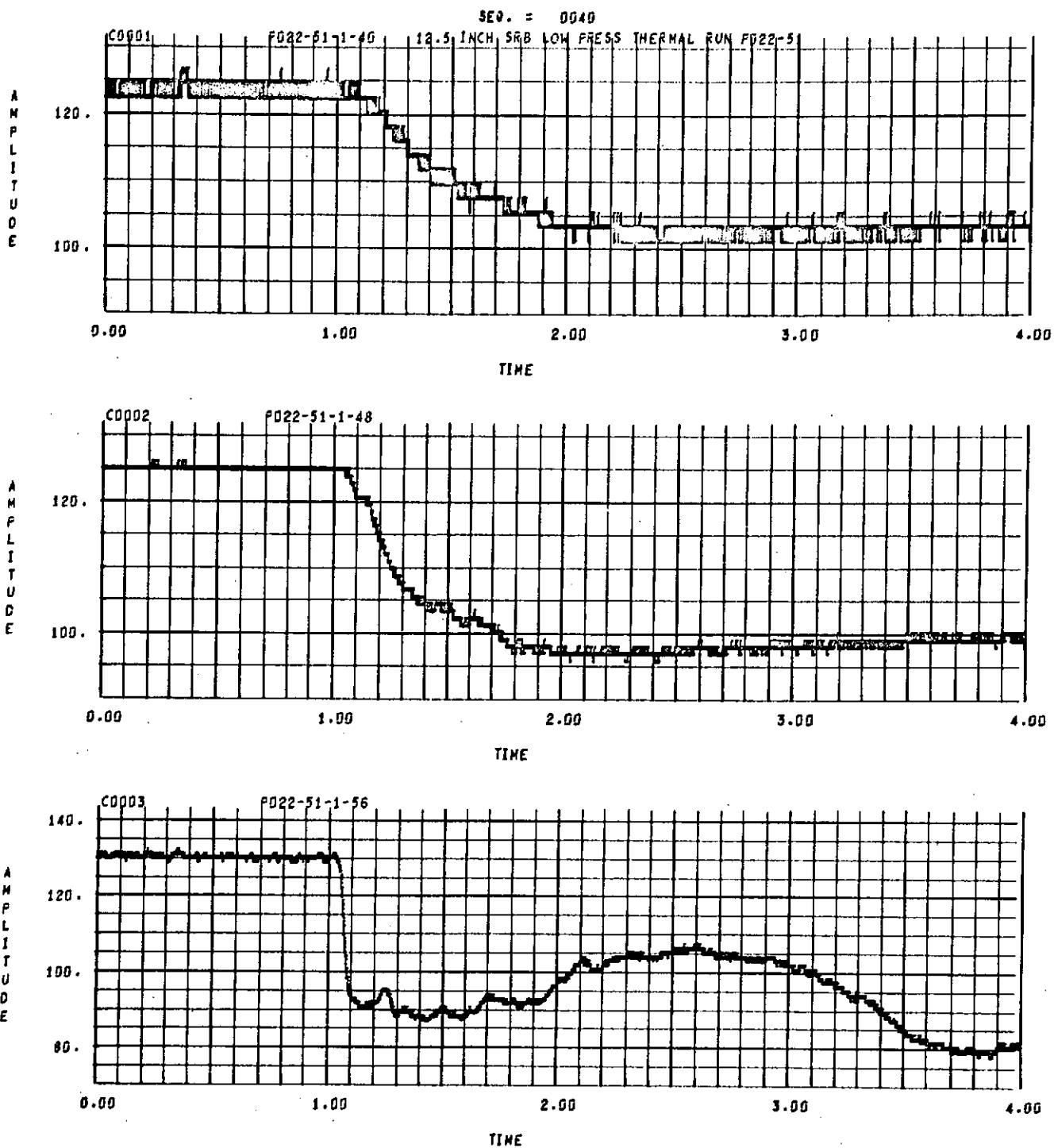


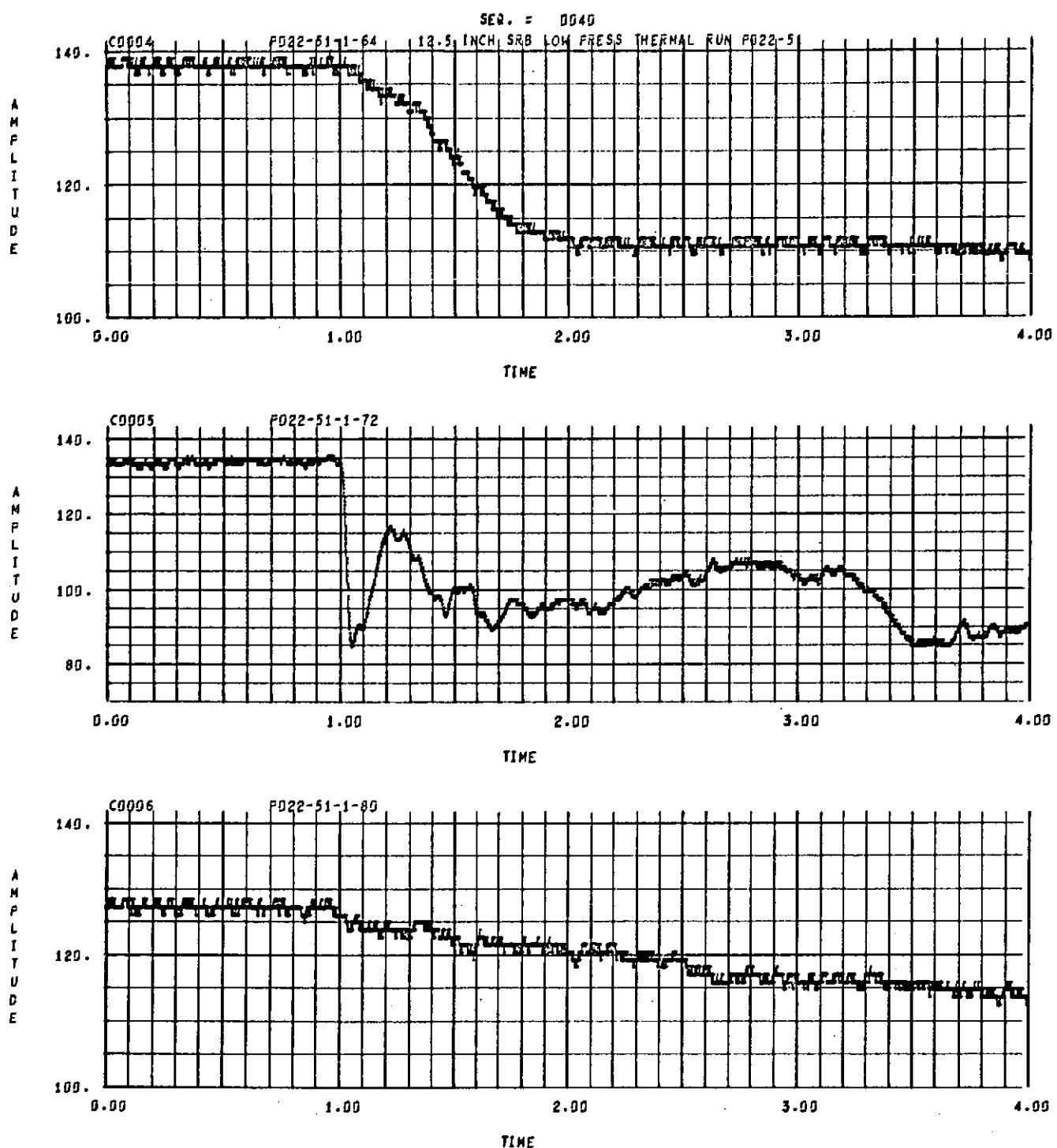


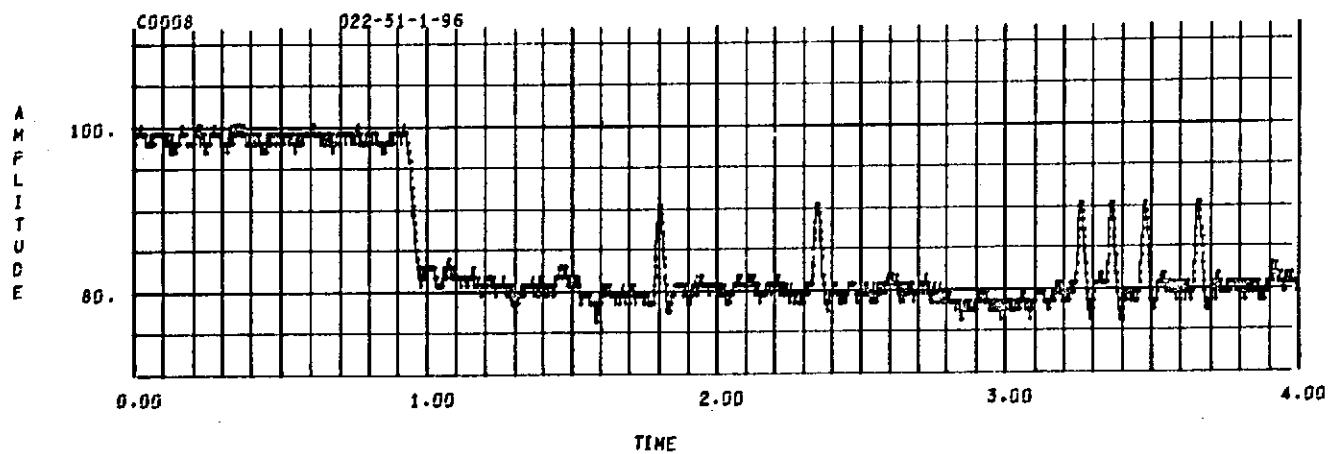
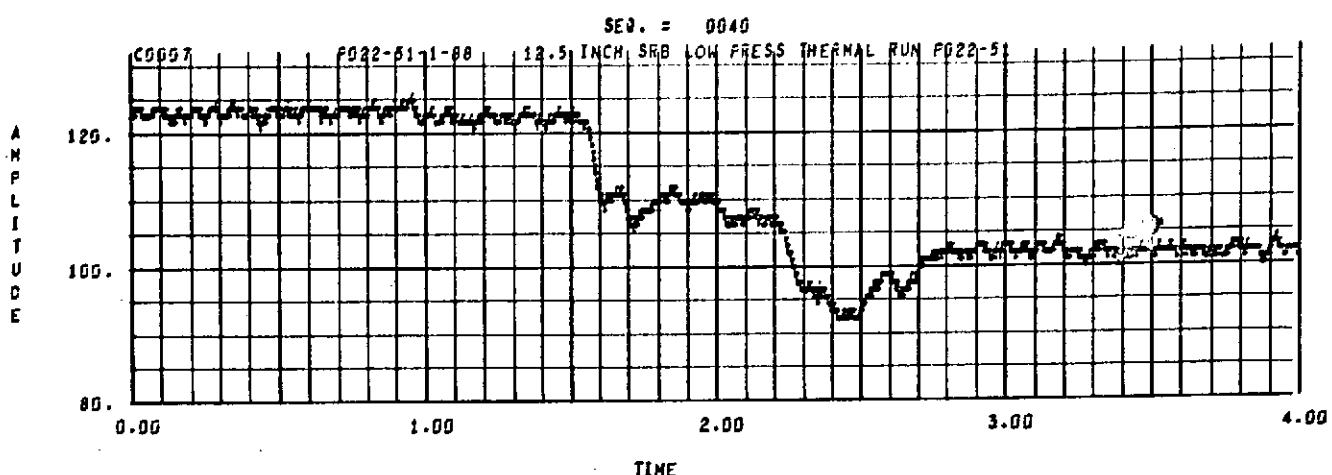


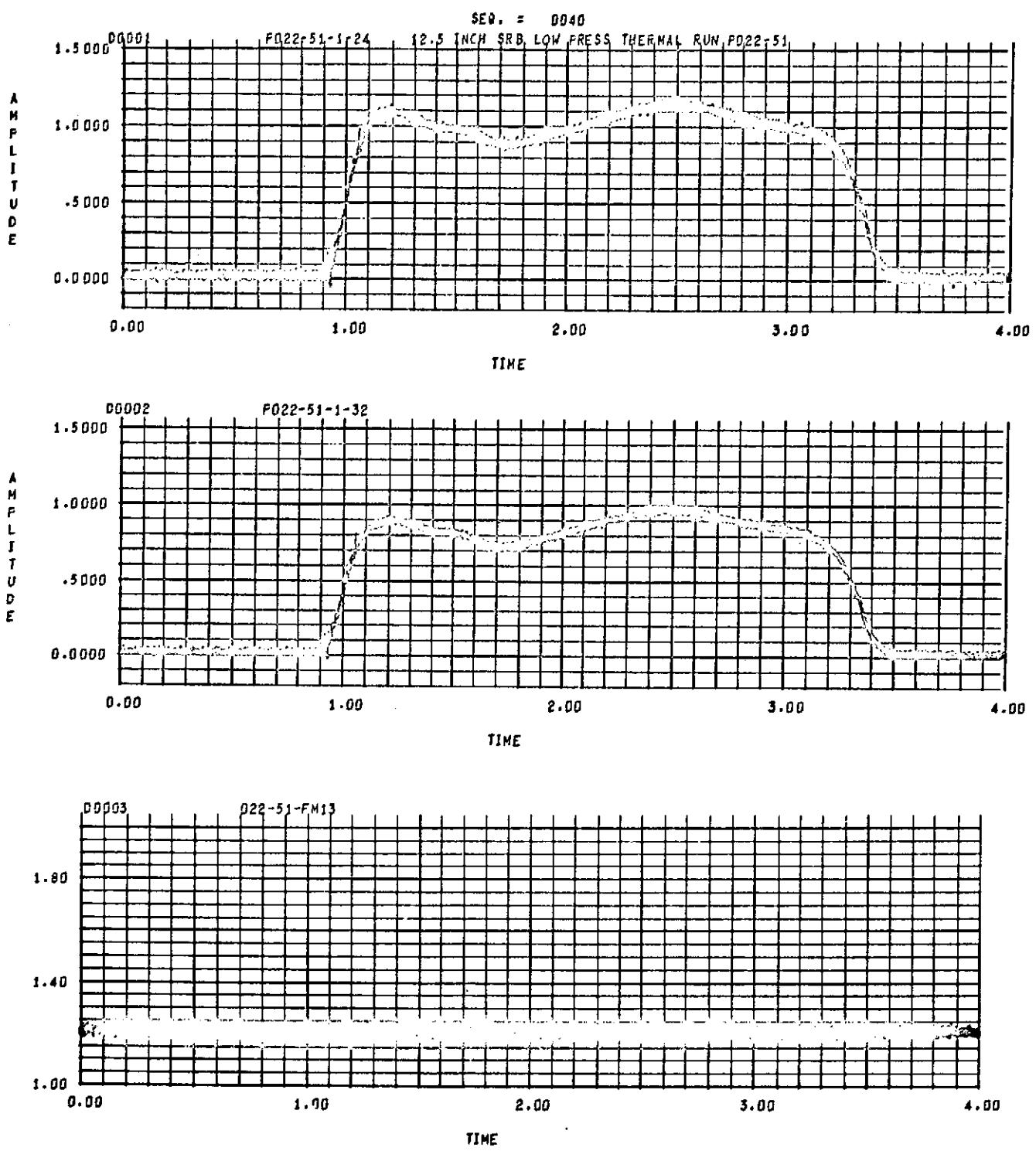
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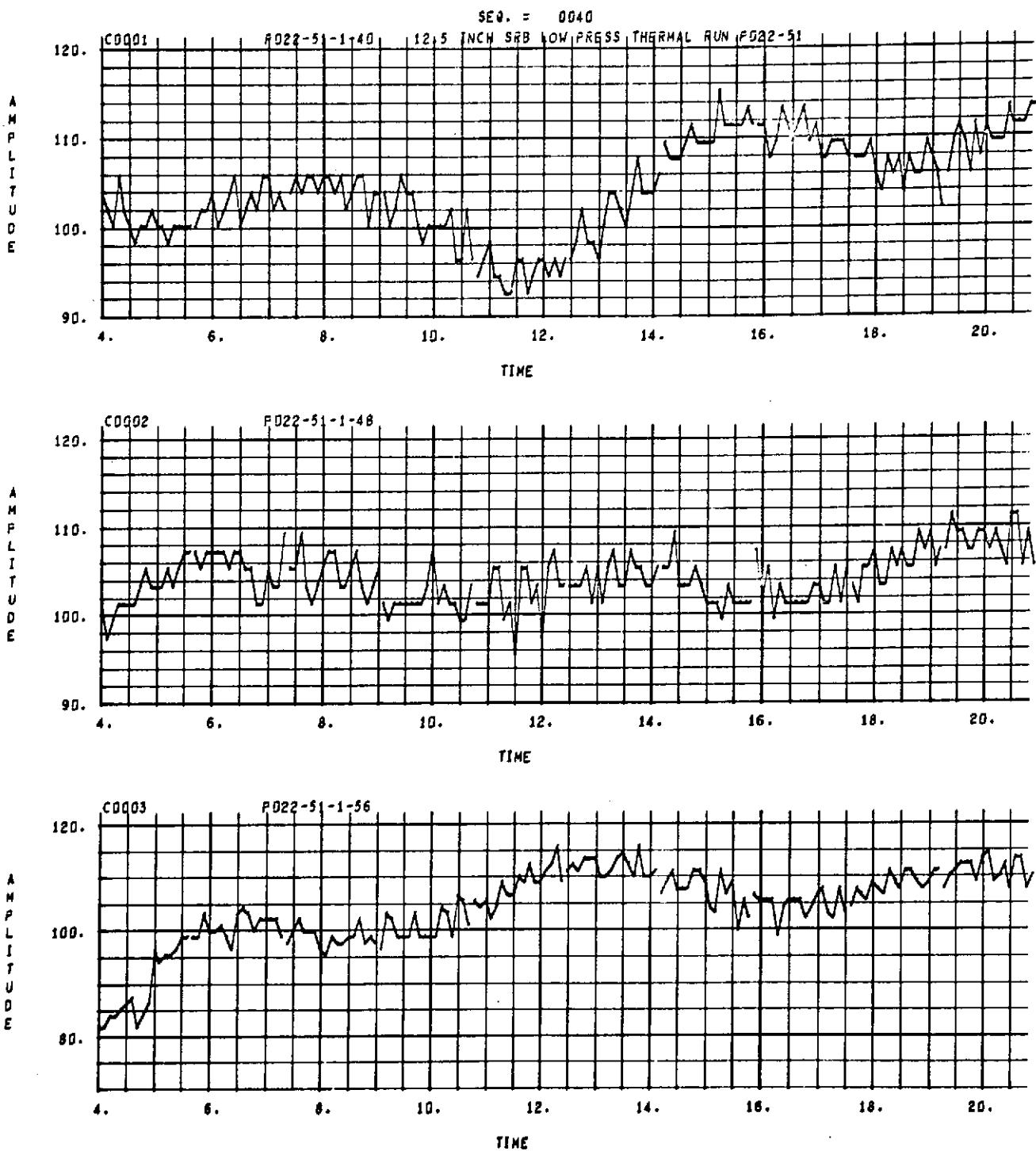


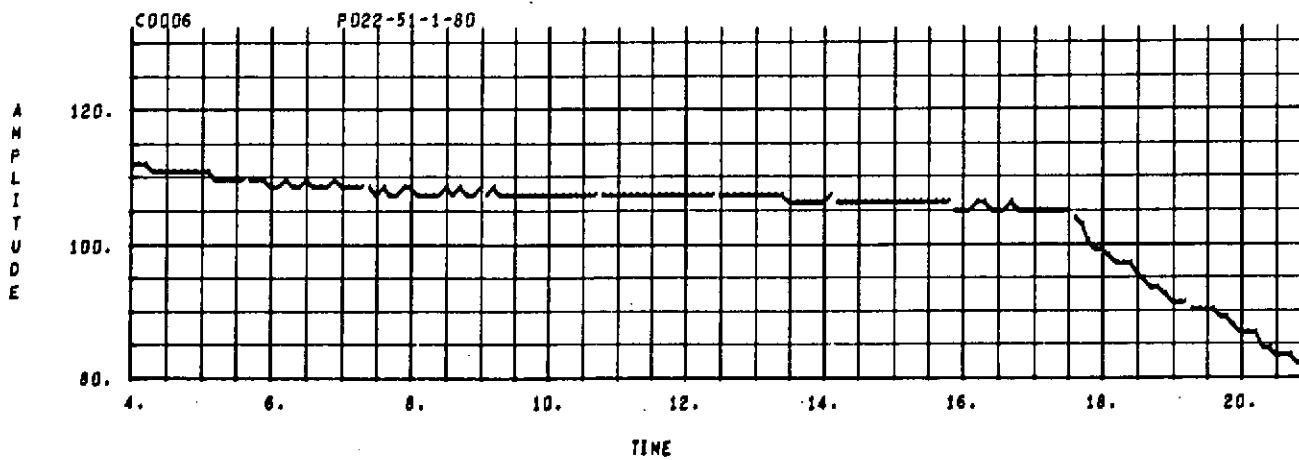
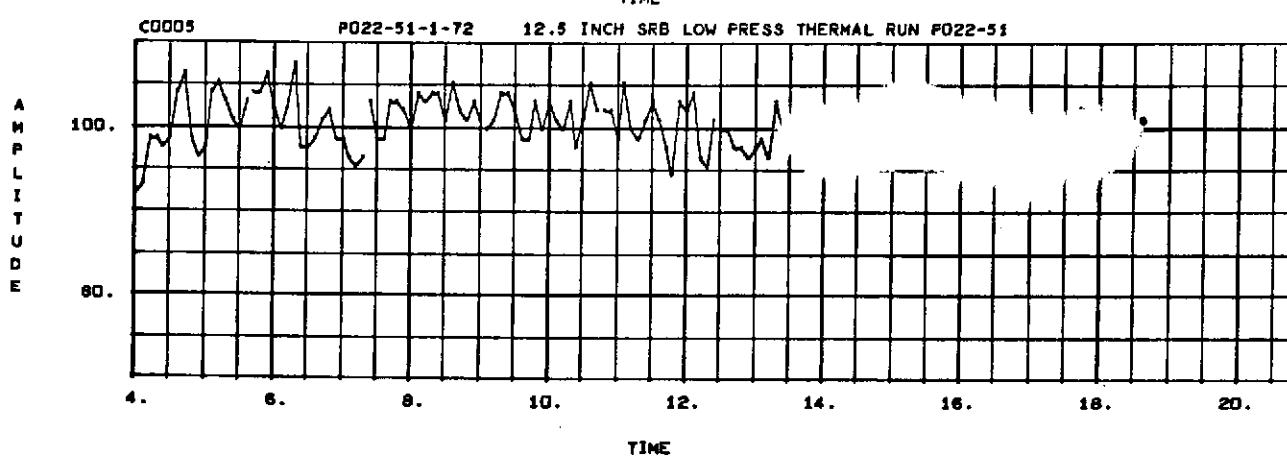
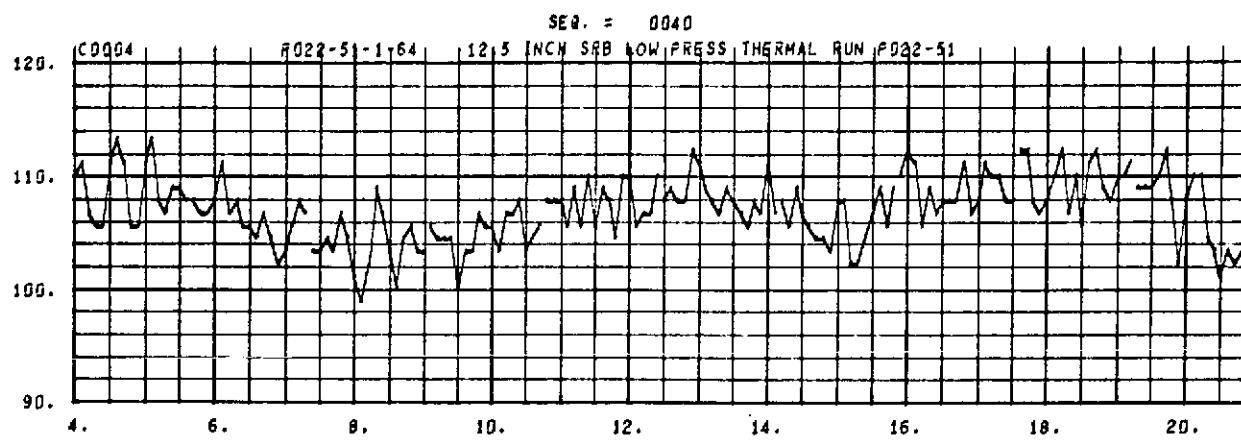


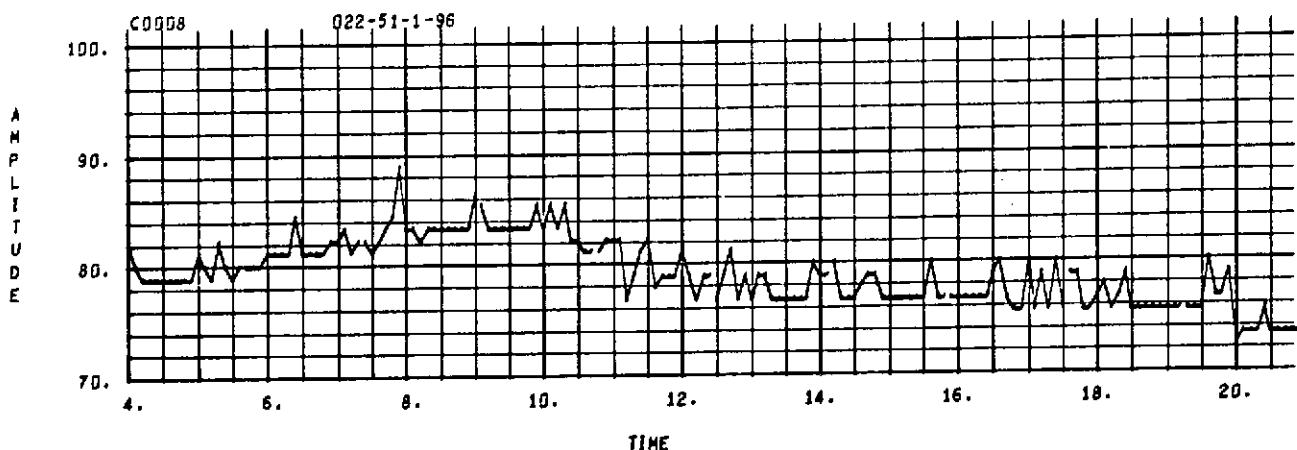
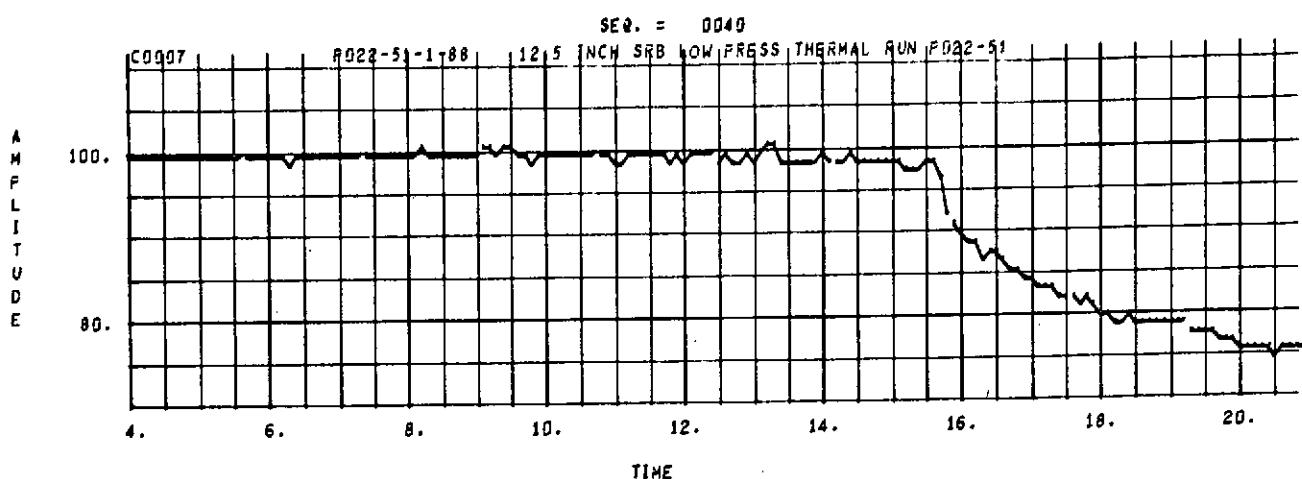


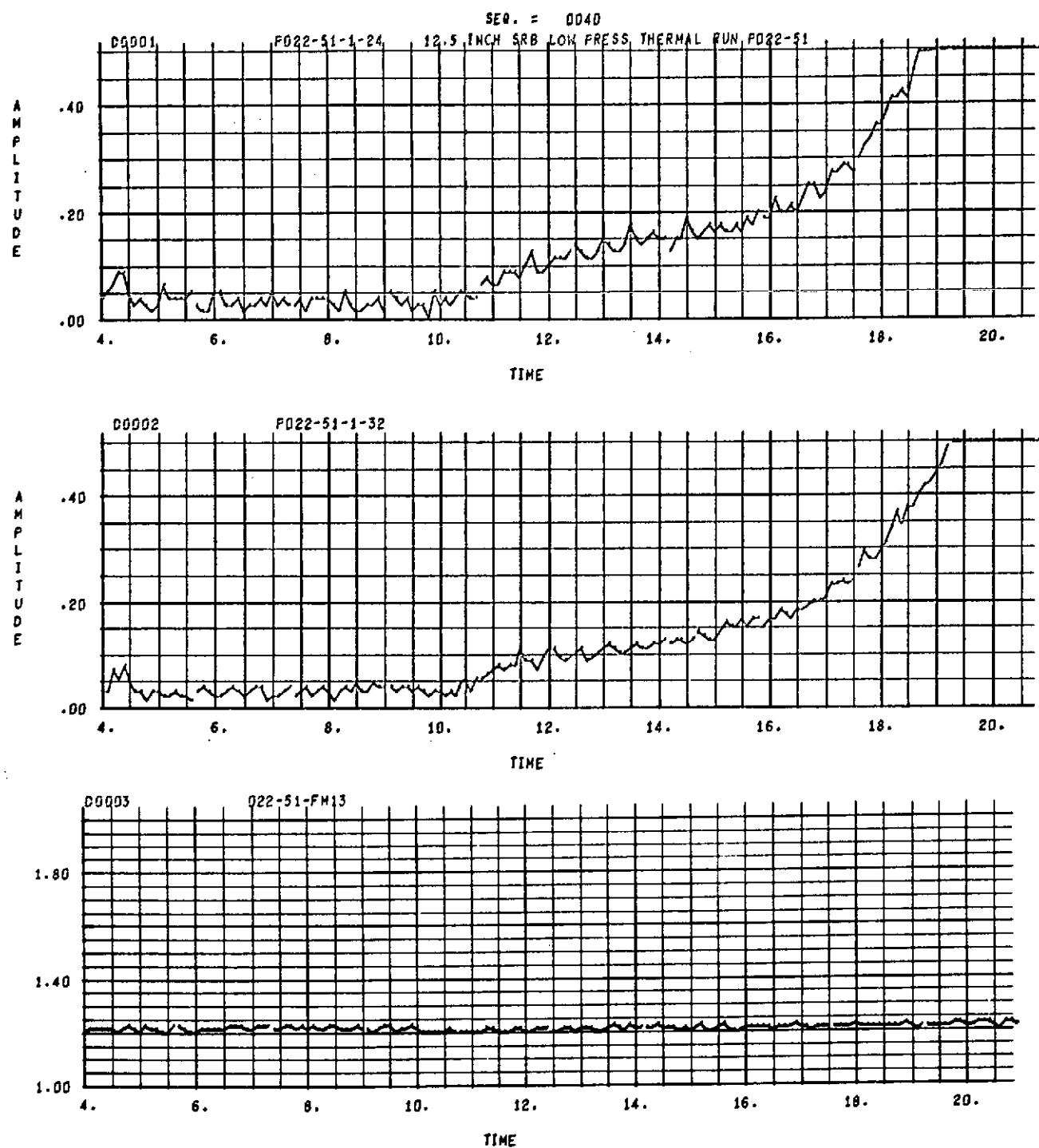












APPROVAL

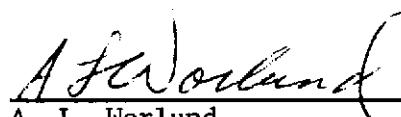
DATA BOOK FOR 12.5-INCH DIAMETER
SRB THERMAL MODEL WATER FLOTATION TEST - 1.29 PSIA, SERIES P022

by
S. L. Allums

The information in this report has been reviewed and approved
for technical accuracy.



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